

Iraq reports hitting 3 ships

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said in a series of war bulletins on Wednesday that its jets had attacked three ships and Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf. A high command communiqué said the third "naval target" of the day, hit at 5.30 p.m. (1430 GMT) off Iran's coast, was "very large." Iraq's normal term for a supertanker. Baghdad earlier reported the raid on Kharg Island terminal and one ship docking there at one p.m. (1000 GMT). This followed close on raids on another naval target and earlier attacks on Bazman oilfields in southwest Iran. Gulf shipping sources could not immediately confirm the shipping attacks. The second ship was attacked while the planes were raiding Kharg's western jetty, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. The raiding planes spotted the vessel berthing near the target area of the terminal and attacked it, the statement said. Kharg Island has been hit more than 150 times since August 1985 and the last Iraqi raid was on the eastern jetty on Sept. 18. Other Iraqi air action on Wednesday included the raids at 9.45 a.m. (0645 GMT) on two Bazman oil production units which the bulletin said were set ablaze.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراية

Kuwait using anti-missile reflectors

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has started installing anti-missile reflectors to protect its oil installations, target of three missile attacks last month, a government minister said on Wednesday. Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah also told Al Watan newspaper in an interview that the emirate had found and detonated a floating mine in the Gulf this week. Kuwait says Iran fired three Chinese-made Silkworm missiles at its coast, hitting two tankers and a key offshore oil export terminal. Sheikh Salem, outlining measures to deal with any future attack, said Kuwait had asked foreign experts for technical information on how to construct the reflectors. "We have begun to implement them and deploy them in important and sensitive areas," he said. Diplomats said the reflectors were mounted on barges in the Gulf north of oil installations to lure radar-guided Silkworms onto dummy targets. Sheikh Salem said there were no fully effective weapons against the Iranian Silkworms, which he said were of an advanced type. (See page 2).

Volume 12 Number 3621

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5-6, 1987, RABIA AL AWWAL 14-15, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Masri and Khatib visit summit centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who has been appointed official spokesman for the extraordinary Arab summit conference to open here on Sunday, and Information Minister Mohammad Khatib Wednesday visited Al Hussein Youth City and inspected the press centre set up to offer facilities to journalists covering the summit. The two ministers toured the centre's sections and looked into arrangements and facilities offered to the press. The centre was visited by His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday.

Arabs strike against Israeli discrimination

HAIFA (AP) — Municipal officials in Israel's 46 Arab towns and villages launched a two-day strike Wednesday to protest discrimination by the Israeli government. Nimr Morcos, mayor of Kfar Yassif, said the Arab municipalities have a combined deficit of \$12.5 million (20 million shekels), and have not paid full salaries to municipal employees since September. Funds for Arab municipalities are provided by the Israeli interior ministry. Ministry officials would not comment on the strike, but Israeli officials have acknowledged that Arab municipalities receive proportionately fewer funds than Jewish towns and villages.

U.S.: No comment on reports of Israel-Iran deals

WASHINGTON (USIA) — State Department spokesman Charles Redman declined comment on Tuesday when asked about reports published in the Middle East and Europe that say Israel has resumed selling arms to Iran. "At this point, I just don't have anything on that story," the spokesman said. When one reporter asked if the United States would oppose such sales, if indeed they took place, Redman replied: "You know what our position has been on sales of military equipment to Iran. Operation Staunch has been ongoing for some time now, and that has been a worldwide effort," he said.

Gemayel receives Iraqi message

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel received a letter on Wednesday from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, four days before the start of the Arab summit in Amman, officials said. Sahhar Al Hadithi, Iraqi charge d'affaires in Beirut, declined to comment on the contents of the message.

Reagan to name new envoy to Iraq

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan intends to nominate April Glaspie to be U.S. ambassador to Iraq, replacing David Newton, the White House said on Wednesday. Mr. Glaspie, a career diplomat with extensive experience in the Middle East, currently heads the office of Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian affairs at the State Department.

INSIDE

- Lebanese rush to stock food in anticipation of strike, page 2
- Prince Hassan encourages efforts of medical panels, page 3
- Towards a unitary democratic state in Palestine? page 4
- Palestinians nurse grievances and flickering hopes of return, page 5
- Kasparov levels score with Karpov, page 6
- Dollar edges up, but stocks slump in nervous markets, page 7
- SAARC summit ends with anti-terrorism call, page 8

Iran and Iraq remain far apart on U.N. plan

U.S. pushes for measures to enforce 598

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Responses by Iran and Iraq to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's latest peace effort showed the two sides still far apart and prospects for an early ceasefire were not encouraging, diplomats said on Wednesday.

The two nations, which have been at war for more than seven years, have agreed to send senior representatives to New York for further talks with the secretary general. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz is expected here after the Arab summit meeting in Amman on Sunday, during which the Gulf war will be the main agenda item. Iran has yet to name its representative to the New York talks.

The United States has said that if Iran refused the Security Council's July 20 demand for a ceasefire, the council must impose an arms embargo against Tehran, but another Western member said this point had not been reached.

The diplomat termed disappointing the Iranian and Iraqi responses to Mr. Perez de Cuellar's peace plan, which was given to them on Oct. 15 with a request for written replies within 15 days.

Mr. Rafsanjani, considered the most powerful figure in Iran after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, declared: "The government, the armed forces and the country's potential should be mobilised so that the United States will find that it has made a big mistake... and that this revolutionary nation will not tolerate this provocation."

Palestinians expect new truce with Amal to hold

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Palestinian officials said on Wednesday they expected a new peace pact to end Lebanon's "camps war" to hold, even though residents reported fresh skirmishes around the southern city of Sidon.

The accord aims to relieve the suffering of beleaguered Palestinian refugees at camps in Beirut and the south after three years of battles with fighters of the Shi'ite Amal militia in which about 2,500 people have been killed.

Officials of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) told reporters they believed the deal announced on Monday in Algiers would succeed because it was guaranteed by Algeria, trusted by both sides. It is due to go into effect formally when a local mediator, Mustapha Saad, returns from Algiers, possibly on Friday, and holds more talks with Amal and Palestinian officials, they said. Residents said sporadic machinegun fire was heard from the hills around Sidon. "They speak about an agreement and on Tuesday night we could not sleep because of fighting," said one angry man.

A U.N. source said the secretary general was "not encouraged" after his meetings with Iranian Ambassador Said Rajaie Khorassani and Iraqi Ambassador Ismat Kittani on Monday. The United Nations has not published the replies but these now have been widely leaked (See page 4).

Diplomats said they showed little or no basic shift in the positions of either government since Mr. Perez de Cuellar had talks with them in their capitals in September.

After the Security Council mandated him to make a new effort, he proposed that Iran and Iraq agree to a ceasefire concurrently with the establishment of a commission to determine responsibility for the Gulf war, which each blames on the other.

The secretary general reported after his return from Tehran and Baghdad that Iran would agree to

an undeclared cessation of hostilities if an inquiry were set up but that Iraq insisted on an unconditional, formal ceasefire.

In its latest response, Iraq said the first paragraph of the council's resolution demanding an immediate ceasefire was "pivotal" but that afterwards there could be discussions on implementing subsequent paragraphs.

These include provision for an inquiry into the origins of the war.

Iran said that naming Iraq as "the aggressor remains a first step towards a just and durable peace."

A Western diplomat actively involved in the peace effort said the replies were tougher than many here had expected and that both sides had "dug themselves deeper into their respective trenches."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Tuesday the United States would push for a formal sanctions resolution against Iran following the ambiguous responses it and Iraq gave to the U.N.'s call.

"The responses are not as clear as we would like, but there is a process still under way," Redman said.

Sharjah police probe suspicions that U.S. navy killed fisherman

DUBAI (Agencies) — Indian fishermen said on Wednesday an unidentified warship had machinegunned their boat in the dark and killed one of their mates on Sunday at the same time and place a U.S. frigate fired on a suspected Iranian vessel.

Police of Sharjah were investigating what could prove to be an embarrassing international incident for the United States and its military effort to keep the Gulf safe for shipping.

The Indian consul general in Dubai said he expected a report within two days that might help officially pin down what happened.

The victims of the attack were Indians manning high-speed fishing boats owned by a UAE national and operating in the southern Gulf, where the U.S. navy is on patrol as part of a major Western naval buildup brought on by the Iran-Iraq war.

Diplomats and shipping sources said suspicion centred on the United States because the survivors said they had been fired on by a warship off Abu Musa Island near the mouth of the Gulf on Sunday night.

That was the time and the place described in a U.S. military report saying the frigate Carr had fired warning shots at three suspected Iranian vessels approaching it at high speed and then opened machinegun fire at one that failed to turn away.

The Indian fisherman told reporters they could not identify the nationality of the warship because it was dark at the time.

But the Carr was the only ship to have reported a firing incident on Sunday evening.

In Washington, U.S. officials said it was possible the Carr might have fired at the Arab boat by mistake.

Lebanese resistance says 30 Israelis killed in clash

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese resistance fighters said they killed 30 Israeli soldiers and wounded 20 in a clash in South Lebanon on Wednesday.

The Islamic Resistance, a fundamentalist group including the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God), said in a statement it also killed a member of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia while three of its own men were injured.

Israeli sources in Kiryat Shmona, just across the border, conceded only that one SLA man was killed and four were injured in the clash near the town of Bint Jbeil and three more SLA men were wounded by landmines.

The Israeli source also said a Soviet-designed Katyusha rocket was fired at northern Israel from Lebanon on Wednesday morning, causing no damage.

Bint Jbeil is just inside an Israeli-declared "security zone" along Lebanon's southern border. Security sources in the southern port of Tyre said two Irish soldiers also were slightly wounded in the clash.

The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) operates in much of South Lebanon outside the "security zone" and Irish troops man the sector nearest to Bint Jbeil.

The Islamic Resistance statement said the attack was launched to mark the birthday of the Prophet Mohammad, celebrated on Tuesday in much of the Muslim world.

"Islamic fighters... at dawn raided Israeli positions at Barasheh village and annihilated all Israeli soldiers," the group said.

The village is located northeast of Bint Jbeil.

The statement said the fighters destroyed three Israeli armoured personnel carriers and seized seven machine guns.

There was no way of corroborating its statement.

The Israeli sources quoted the SLA as saying dozens of fighters managed to enter the area unnoticed by the Irish U.N. troops manning three posts nearby.

They said Hizbollah rebels overran a position previously held by the SLA but the SLA regained it in fighting.

Reagan reassures Europe over arms agreements

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan on Wednesday reassured Europeans the United States would not sign any arms reduction treaty with the Soviet Union that would fail to take into account European security interests.

At the same time, Mr. Reagan reiterated that any agreement with the Soviets to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) from Europe could not be held hostage to demands for scrapping his strategic defence initiative (SDI), a space-based missile defence system commonly known as "Star Wars."

In a 35-minute televised speech on the Worldnet programme of the U.S. Information Agency, Mr. Reagan said: "I can assure you that any treaty I sign will be realistic and in the long-term interests of all the members of the alliance, or no agreement will be signed."

However, Mr. Reagan said he expected to sign an INF treaty during the Dec. 7 summit in Washington with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr. Reagan said European fears that U.S. agreement with the Soviet Union would lessen American commitment to the de-

Upper House gives unanimous approval to Al Wahdah accord

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Wednesday unanimously ratified the Sept. 3 accord signed between Jordan and Syria to build the Al Wahdah (Unity) dam across the Yarmouk River in the Maqarin area.

The dam's water will be used for irrigation purposes and for generating hydro-electric power and water for domestic use in both countries.

The accord crowns 34 years of bilateral and international efforts to regulate the exploitation of the Yarmouk River.

During Wednesday's debate, in the Senate, the agreement was lauded by eight senators as "a historical pact" and "a major achievement" by the government. The accord received the same warm welcome when it was endorsed by the Syrian People's Council last Thursday.

Previous efforts to construct the dam were hampered by political differences, sometimes bilateral, but mostly by the long-standing Israeli objection to Syrian-Jordanian plans to expand the use of the headwaters and tributaries of the river.

Originally labelled as Al Maqarin, the dam's name was changed into Al Wahdah, a sym-

bol of the warmth in Jordanian-Syrian relations.

Senators Ahmad Al Tarawneh, Khalil Al Salem, Hassan Al Kayyed, Abdul Rahman Khalifeh, Ali Hassan Odeh, Hazem Nuseibeh, Barjas Al Haddid and Haidi Surour reiterated the Senate's stand on the dam as outlined in its Oct. 24 reply to His Majesty King Hussein's speech from the throne. In the reply, the Senate welcomed and approved the landmark accord saying that all Jordanian development projects "have been yearning for water resources and cheap electric power" that could be generated from the dam.

(Continued on page 3)

Jordan receives third instalment of Saudi aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Arabia has paid the third instalment of its financial commitment to Jordan for 1987, in accordance with the resolutions passed by the 1978 Arab summit in Baghdad, Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh announced Wednesday.

He said that the Finance Ministry has received \$119,047,630 from the Saudi Arabian government as a result of the commitment. This payment reflects Saudi Arabia's commitment to help Arab countries confronting Israel, the minister said.

Saudi Arabia is the only oil-rich

Arah country that has been honouring its commitments to Jordan and other Arab countries since the Baghdad summit.

Under resolutions adopted at the Baghdad summit, oil-producing Arab countries committed themselves to provide a total of \$30 billion in 10 years to Jordan, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to help the struggle against Israel. Other than Saudi Arabia, those who undertook the pledge included Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Libya and Iraq.

U.N. panel accuses Israel of repression

UNITED NATIONS (R) —

Israel maintains a general climate of confrontation and repression in occupied Arab lands, where tension and violence have intensified under its "iron fist" policy, a U.N. panel said on Wednesday.

The special committee to investigate Israeli practices said in a report there was a noticeable increase in arrests and detention orders against Palestinians.

"Harsh sentences have been passed, sometimes on minors, for alleged security offences," it said.

"On the other hand, the few Israelis sentenced for mistreatment of Arab civilians have been treated with relative leniency."

The report spoke of a persistent denial of the right to family reunification and noted that even seven-year olds had not been immune from indiscriminate violence.

Referring to the policy of expulsion and deportation, the committee cited the case of Akram Haniyeh, a journalist who

was deported.

"Freedom of association and freedom of the press were also affected by various measures such as censorship of the press, interference in the work and harassment of journalists and trade unionists, or closure of newspapers and trade unions," the report said.

In the education field, Israeli policy produced events that led to the deaths of some students while others, along with their teachers, were harassed, the report said.

There was physical and psychological mistreatment of detainees, overcrowding in cells and inadequate sanitation, it said.

"Taking into account these various elements, the special committee reaches the conclusion that the situation in the occupied territories denotes a continuing deterioration of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the civilian population," the report went on.

Armitage confirms Carlucci will succeed Weinberger

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Visiting U.S. Assistant Defence Secretary Richard Armitage said on Wednesday that President Reagan would appoint National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci on Thursday to succeed Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

"I'm off to Germany and further to return to the White House ceremony regarding Mr. Weinberger and Mr. Carlucci tomorrow," Mr. Armitage told reporters at the end of a two-day visit to Israel (See page 7).

It was the first time a U.S. defence official publicly confirmed rumours that Mr. Weinberger would resign and be replaced by Mr. Carlucci. Mr. Weinberger, 70, has steadfastly refused to confirm or deny reports he was quitting after seven years on the job.

But his wife Jane has confirmed he will resign, the New York Times reported on Wednesday.

"He stayed on while he thought he could be helpful," Mrs. Weinberger was quoted as saying. "He has thought of leaving several times but the timing never seemed quite right before." She denied her husband was quitting because of her health

problems. "All the stories you hear about my general health are not true," she told the newspaper on Tuesday in a telephone interview from Monterey, California, where the U.S. defence chief was attending a meeting of NATO defence ministers.

Asked why he wouldn't respond to the reports he is quitting, Mr. Weinberger said on the U.S. television network NBC on Wednesday: "I've always tried to stay on substantive matters and matters that involve the immediate issues that we have before us."

"The president is losing a long-time associate when he needs people around him who understand his instincts," a senior White House official said Tuesday.

Mr. Weinberger's association with Mr. Reagan dates back two decades.

Weinberger — from a budget-cutter to a budget-booster, Page 4

Special offer at Smurfs Tower See page 6

50 سنة للاحل

Lebanese rush to buy food ahead of general strike

BEIRUT (R) — War-weary Lebanese cleared supermarket shelves in panic on Wednesday ahead of an indefinite general strike called in protest at their country's economic crisis.

The soaring inflation and collapse of the Lebanese pound which sparked the strike by the General Labour Federation (GLF) also put a damper on celebrations of Tuesday's anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad's birth.

Mainly Muslim west Beirut, which normally echoes to the sound of fireworks and guns fired into the air on the eve of the anniversary, was quiet this year. Residents complained they could not afford fireworks and ammunition, while many children received none of the usual gifts.

The GLF, comprising about 60 unions, said in a statement that all its 250,000 affiliated members in the private and public sectors would strike from Thursday "until all the demands are met."

Banks, shops, restaurants and public and private institutions including schools would close, but pharmacies, hospitals, bakeries and the media were exempt.

However, newspapers will refrain from publishing for two days out of sympathy while bakeries

ever ending the 12-year war between feuding Falangist and opposition factions.

"I hope the strike goes on for a year. We cannot suffer for nothing any more," said mother-of-three Claude Tuma, 40.

GLF President Antoine Bechara told a news conference on Tuesday that the strike was aimed "at ending the war... protecting the pound and halting squandering of public money."

"Let us revolt against this slow death. Let us rebel against war and the warlords... let us show them that the entire Lebanese people are united in the struggle for the loaf," he said.

The As Safir newspaper, describing the strike as the country's first open-ended stoppage since 1952, said in a front-page banner headline on Wednesday: "Tomorrow Lebanon unites in the face of those who are starving it."

Opposition leaders, who have boycotted President Amin Gemayel since 1980 when he refused to sign a Syrian-sponsored peace pact, voiced support for the strike.

But Falangist leaders blamed the crisis on pro-Syrian opposition ministers and a lack of confidence sparked by their boycott.

Kuwait building advanced anti-missile system

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwaiti forces are building a sophisticated defence system to intercept Iranian Silkworm missiles, Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah has said.

"We have implemented most of the defence plan aimed at deterring foreign aggression, preventing the missiles from reaching Kuwaiti territory," he said.

He gave no details of the new defence system. But he noted in an interview with the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA): "We have established contacts with arms manufacturers in the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Britain to obtain specially designed and highly effective weapons for dealing with those missiles."

He spoke after meeting Gen. George B. Crist, commander of the U.S. Central Command in Florida which has responsibility for the U.S. Navy Task Force in the Gulf, and French Ambassador Marcel Laugel.

The French Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Achille Lerch, was in Kuwait about two weeks ago. France supplied Kuwait with an early warning system three years ago.

Sources said the installation of the sophisticated anti-missile system on Failakah island, 32 kilometres west of Kuwait in the northern Gulf, was moving ahead.

Kuwait bolstered its defences on the island with U.S.-made Hawk anti-aircraft missile batteries from seven Iranian missiles attacks last month.

Iran, at war with Iraq for seven years, accuses Kuwait of directly aiding Iraq's war effort.

The Defence Ministry said in a statement that Gen. Crist and the Kuwaiti officials discussed "using up-to-date defence equipment to deter Iranian aggression on Kuwait, which is not party to the war."

Iran-contra investigators get Swiss bank records

WASHINGTON (AP) — Swiss bank records tracing the flow of money in the Iran-contra affair — and which would be a central part of any criminal prosecution in the case — were turned over to U.S. investigators in Switzerland.

Investigators for independent counsel Lawrence Walsh were in Bern to collect the documents from the Swiss government, 11 months after the initial request and following a lengthy legal battle in Swiss courts which has delayed a decision by Mr. Walsh on whether to seek indictments.

The 66 pounds (30 kilograms) of records, one of the most important pieces of the Iran-contra puzzle, concern accounts controlled by fired National Security Council aide Oliver North; Col. North's associate, retired U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord; Gen. Secord's partner,

Iranian-born businessman Albert Hakim and arms dealer Manucher Ghorbanifar.

Gen. Secord, Mr. Hakim and Mr. Ghorbanifar had challenged the release of the records, and without them Mr. Walsh's office has been reluctant to make a decision on whether to seek indictments.

"It was a gaping hole in the investigation," said one source familiar with Mr. Walsh's probe, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In a statement saying "we are pleased" with Swiss cooperation, Mr. Walsh said that now "we intend to proceed promptly with our review of this evidence."

The records concern several accounts set up in 1985 and 1986 by the four men and detail the movement of proceeds from the Iran arms sales and

donations from U.S. citizens and foundations into the Swiss bank accounts.

The bank accounts include one under the name of Lake Resources, a Panama-based company controlled by Gen. Secord. Investigators have said the account was used to channel funds from the Iran arms sales to Nicaragua's contras and that Col. North helped set up the Lake Resources account.

Under Swiss treaties, Switzerland supplies banking documents to a legitimate criminal investigation. Lawyers for Gen. Secord, Mr. Hakim and Mr. Ghorbanifar argued that the American investigators were looking into political offences rather than criminal ones and that Switzerland should not provide the documents.

Switzerland's supreme court, the federal tribunal, on Aug. 20

rejected those arguments. "No delivery was held up in the decentralised Swiss judicial system by appeals in a Geneva court by Mr. Hakim and Mr. Ghorbanifar."

"These are the central documents, the ones everyone talks about," Swiss Justice Minister spokesman Joerg Kistler said of the documents supplied to Mr. Walsh's investigators. Kistler said some minor "scraps" or records were still held up in the Swiss Supreme Court, but he refused to elaborate.

U.S. investigators have said some \$8 million connected with the Iran-contra affair is frozen in Swiss accounts. The United States will have to file a new judicial assistance request to try to lay claim to the money. Gen. Secord told Congress the funds belonged to the "enterprise" operated by him and Mr. Hakim.

China rebukes U.S. over Iran arms charges

PEKING (R) — China rebuked the U.S. government and news media on Wednesday over charges that Peking was a major arms supplier to Iran.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told a weekly news briefing that U.S. newspapers were trying to spread rumours that China was Iran's biggest Gulf war arms supplier.

He criticised an unidentified U.S. official alleged to have said China was sending a second shipment of Silkworm missiles to Iran and supplying it with artillery shells through a Hong Kong middleman.

"Such allegations are totally groundless," the spokesman said.

"The U.S. government knows very well where the large number

of weapons in Iran come from," he said. "In spite of that, the U.S. official went ahead and concocted and spread rumours about China sending missiles to Iran."

"Such a practice of diverting people's attention is by no means clever."

The spokesman said the U.S. press had falsely reported that China had sold 96 missiles to Tehran and that there were Chinese military specialists in Iran helping to operate Silkworm missiles.

"Recently, the U.S. press has been trying to give the international community the impression China has become the biggest arms supplier for Iran, and has been spreading such rumours. This is really ridiculous," he said.

U.S. Undersecretary of State

Webb wants U.S. to hit at core of Iran's capabilities

WASHINGTON — The United States should respond to Iranian provocations in the Gulf by striking at the core of Iran's capabilities instead of retaliating against minor military targets, Navy Secretary James Webb has suggested.

In responding to Iranian attacks, "the force used should be designed not simply to retaliate for an action that has been conducted against you, but to pre-empt the next action," Mr. Webb said at a luncheon with editors and reporters of The Washington Times. "That's the only way you can gain the initiative in the military sense."

Mr. Webb quoted the prime minister of Bahrain as saying, "When your floor is flooded, you don't keep mopping up the floor until you fix the faucet."

A reduction of the U.S. Navy presence in the Gulf is contingent on Iran acknowledging the right of all nations to navigate in international waters and continued allied participation in trying to keep the Gulf open, Mr. Webb said.

— The Washington Times.

Mitterrand knew of Iran arms export — report

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand was told in 1984 that French munitions were being exported illegally to Iran but the shipments continued for a further two years, the French newspaper Le Figaro said on Wednesday.

In the latest revelation in a scandal rocking Mr. Mitterrand's Socialist Party, Le Figaro published a confidential report by Armed Forces Inspector-General Jean-Francois Barba on the alleged sales by the French armaments company Luchaire.

The conservative newspaper quoted Barba as saying that the then Defence Minister, Charles Hernu, may have turned a blind eye to a cover-up by aides who wanted to help the struggling company while also accepting

contributions to the party.

"I am convinced that the illicit operations of the Luchaire company were covered by members of Hernu's staff, in particular, by his senior aide (Jean-Francois) Dubos," Barba was quoted as saying.

Mr. Dubos has denied covering up "any kind of operation aimed at financing a political party." The Socialist Party has denied the allegations, the latest scandal involving the two main parties ahead of presidential elections next April.

Barba said the head of France's DGSE intelligence service told Mr. Mitterrand of the illegal trade, between 1983 and early 1986, in an interview in the Elysee Palace on May 21, 1984

and Mr. Mitterrand told him to tell Mr. Hernu.

The report said Luchaire Managing-Director Daniel Dewavrin told Barba he made the shipments to save his company and that 2.5 to three million francs (\$300,000 to \$375,000) was transferred to a Socialist Party organisation.

The report was ordered by Defence Minister Andre Giraud, a member of the conservative government that ousted Mr. Mitterrand's Socialist administration in 1986.

Mr. Dubos said in a statement released by his lawyer on Tuesday that he "categorically denied having covered up any kind of operation aimed at financing a political party."

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 7711-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
18:00	Koran
18:30	Programme Review
18:55	Cartoons
19:20	Children's Scientific Programme
19:45	Health and Life (local)
20:10	Arabic Series
20:30	World News Reports
20:50	Programme review
21:10	News in Arabic
21:30	Arabic series
21:50	Local varieties programme
22:10	Arabic film
22:30	News summary in Arabic
22:50	Arabic film contd.
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Les Reves de Jeanne (Canaan)
18:00	Rue Carnot
18:30	L'entente des plantes (documentary)
19:00	News in French
19:15	French songs
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varities
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Life's Most Embarrassing Moments
21:10	Alfred Hitchcock
21:30	News in English
22:20	Feature film: "Resting Place"
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 99.0 KHz. SW	
Tel: 7411-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show Contd.
10:00	Country Music
11:00	Hitville: The story of Motown
12:00	News Summary
13:00	News
13:30	News Summary
14:00	Top Session
14:30	News Bulletin
15:00	Instrumentals
15:30	Discovering Music
16:00	Concert House
16:30	News Summary
17:00	News
17:30	Instrumentals
18:00	Old Favourites
18:30	30 Years of American Top Twenties
19:00	Pop Session
19:30	News Summary
19:50	Special Feature
20:00	Music
20:30	News
21:00	Jerash Festival 187

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
★ Art exhibition for Kamal and Nidal Tabbaa at Housing Bank Complex (until Nov. 21).	
★ Photographs exhibition by Mohammad Roumi at the French Cultural Centre (until Nov. 12).	
★ An exhibition of paintings, drawings, and collages by Dodi Karim Tabbaa at the Petra Bank Gallery, Wadi Sagra (until Nov. 15).	
FILM	
★ A Turkish video film entitled "Beyaz Biskit" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the Turkish Cultural Centre.	
FEATURE FILM	
★ "The Colour Purple" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.	
SERVICE	
★ The Anglican Church will be holding a remembrance day service at the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, on Sunday, 8th November at 6:30 p.m.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267	
American Centre .. Tel. 641271	
British Council .. Tel. 6361478	
French Cultural Centre .. Tel. 637009	
Goethe Institute .. Tel. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre .. Tel. 64203	
Spanish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 624049	
Turkish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 639777	
Haya Arts Centre .. Tel. 665195	
Hussein Youth Club .. Tel. 667016	
Y.W.C.A. .. Tel. 641793	
Y.M.C.A. .. Tel. 642521	
Amman Municipal Library .. Tel. 636111	
Univ. of Jordan Library .. Tel. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
★ Children's Heritage and Science Museum, Fun and Knowledge for all	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 532025, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:15	Agaba (RJ)
09:30	Cairo (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
09:40	Jeddah (RJ)
09:50	Dubai (RJ)
09:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
10:45	Athens (RJ)
10:55	London, Geneva (RJ)
11:45	Bucharest, Larnaca (RJ)
12:00	Rome (RJ)
12:05	Baghdad (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
12:10	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
12:40	Kuwait (KU)
14:30	Amman, Ankara (TR)
15:00	Riyadh (SV)
17:30	Baghdad (IA)
18:20	Amsterdam (KL)
18:35	Cairo (BA)
19:15	Frankfurt (LH)
20:15	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
21:05	Paris (AF)
00:25	Baghdad (IA)
DEPARTURES	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
07:00	Agaba (RJ)
07:30	Bucharest (RJ)
08:45	Rome (RJ)
09:15	Athens (RJ)
12:00	Frankfurt, London (RJ)
12:15	Brussels, Paris (RJ)
13:45	Kuwait (RJ)
14:30	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
15:00	Bahrain, Oita (RJ)
15:55	Baghdad (RJ)
20:00	Jeddah (RJ)
20:00	Amman (RJ)
20:15	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:30	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00	Bangkok (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
06:20	Frankfurt (LH)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	
Amman governorate .. 891228	
Amman Civil Defence .. 198, 199	
Civil Defence Irbid .. 271293, 273131	
Civil Defence Qusaymah .. 770733	
Civil Defence Deir Al Zor .. 5700	
Ambulance .. 193, 775111	
Amman downtown fire brigade .. 198	
First aid .. 630541	
Blood Bank .. 776305	
Civil Defence .. 661131	
Fire headquarters .. 620900-3	
Police rescue .. 192, 621111, 637777	
Police headquarters .. 639141	
Traffic police .. 896290	
Electric Power Co. .. 838814, 624881	
Municipal water complaints .. 771258	
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08) 533060	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Sulaiman Dabboubi .. 776331	
Dr. Saleh Zayed .. 796677	
Dr. Amin Abdul Jabbar .. 61222	
Dr. Mohammad Horani .. 898592	
Firas pharmacy .. 661912	
Ferdows pharmacy .. 767336	
Balassam pharmacy .. 834741	
Al Asma pharmacy .. 637055	
Natourah pharmacy .. 62972	
Al Salam pharmacy .. 62670	
TAXIS:	
Al Wadha taxi .. 641833	
Khalidoun taxi .. 64888	
Bassam taxi .. 311837	
Alhi taxi .. 621127	
Heyam taxi .. 814741	
Bahram taxi .. 854130	
Jemazi taxi .. 876743	
HOSPITALS	
Hussein Medical Centre .. 81381352	
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn .. 6442816	
Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amn .. 6424412	
Jabal Amman Maternity .. 642262	
Mallat, J. Amman .. 654160	
U.K. Maternity .. 641714	
Shmash Hospital .. 669131	
University Hospital .. 848845	
Al-Muhsin Hospital .. 6672709	
The Islamic, Al-Jabal .. 661737	
Al-Ahli, Al-Jabal .. 664166	
Italian, Al-Muhsin .. 771013	
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh .. 7751126	
Amman Maternity .. 8916111	
Queen Alia Hospital .. 6024050	
Amal Hospital .. 674155	
GENERAL	
Jordan Television .. 7731119	
Radio Jordan .. 7741119	
Ministry of Tourism .. 642311	
Hotel operators .. 666112	
Price complaints .. 661176	
Telephone information .. 12	
Jordan and Middle East calls .. 18	
Overseas calls .. 17	
Repair service .. 11	
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple (different kinds) .. 300 / 250	
Apple (French) .. 400 / 350	
Banana .. 350 / 300	
Banana (Mukammari) .. 300 / 240	
Beans .. 240 / 180	
Cabbage .. 140 / 100	
Cauliflower .. 110 / 80	
Cucumbers .. 250 / 200	
Dates .. 360 / 300	
Eggplant (large) .. 100 / 60	
Eggplant (small) .. 100 / 60	
Figs .. 400 / 350	
Garlic .. 450 / 350	
Grapes (white and black) .. 300 / 200	
Grapes (red) .. 120 / 100	
Guava .. 230 / 180	
Lemon .. 120 / 80	
Melon .. 140 / 100	
Marrow .. 170 / 100	
Olives (green) .. 470 / 400	
Olives (black) .. 520 / 460	
Onion (dry) .. 400 / 300	
Potato .. 220 / 240	
Peppers .. 280 / 220	
Orange (hot) .. 130 / 80	
Pepper (sweet) .. 110 / 80	
Pomegranate .. 220 / 240	
Raddish .. 130 / 100	
Spinach .. 140 / 100	
Tomatoes .. 100 / 60	

FOR FRIDAY		23:00	News summary in Arabic
		23:10	Jerash Festival contd.
JORDAN TELEVISION			
Tel: 7711-19			
PROGRAMME ONE			
18:00	Koran		
18:30	Programme Review		
18:55	Cartoons and Children programme		
19:20	Care Bears		
19:45	Religious series		
20:10	Friday's prayer		
20:30	Sport magazine		
20:50	Religious seminar		
21:20	Children's Talents		
21:50	English series		
22:20	Documentary		
22:50	Vigee's choice (Arabic)		
23:20	Programme on Jordan		
23:50	Programme review		
24:20	News in Arabic		
24:50	A programme on the West Bank		
25:20	Arabic Series		
25:50	Jerash Festival 187		
PROGRAMME TWO			
17:10	"Parlez apres le signal sonore."		
19:40	"Le Monde Selon Genov."		
19:50	News in French		
19:55	Varieties		
20:00	News in Hebrew		
20:05	Varieties		
20:10	News in Arabic		
20:15	Late Expectations		
20:20	Against the Wind		
22:00	News in English		
22:10	Super Train		
RADIO JORDAN			
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM			
& partly on 99.0 KHz. SW			
Tel. 7711-19			
07:50	Light Music		
07:30	Newsweek		
08:00	Morning Show		
08:30	News Summary		

NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Basma patronises graduation

SALT (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Wednesday patronised the graduation ceremony, held in Salt, for a group of young women who took part in vocational training courses sponsored by the Department of Education in Balqa Governorate in cooperation with the Vocational Training Centre in Ein Al Basha. Princess Basma distributed certificates to the graduates and later toured an exhibition of products and crafts made by the graduates. The ceremony was attended by Balqa Governor Mijhem Al Khreisha, a number of officials and the graduates' parents.

Princess Majeda chairs meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Princess Majeda Ra'd, president of Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, chaired a meeting on Wednesday for the society's general assembly. Princess Majeda reviewed the society's activities and achievements, as well as its financial and administrative reports.

Hamzeh reports on int'l AIDS panel

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the recently-formed standing technical committee to supervise the implementation of precautionary measures against AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Dr. Hamzeh briefed the committee on discussions which took place during a two-day international conference on AIDS held in Paris in October. The conference, the minister said, called for combating the disease rather than the patient.

Khayyat opens public garden

AMMAN (J.T.) — A public garden was opened at Jubeiha on Wednesday by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, as part of the country's celebrations of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday. The garden was set up by the Greater Amman Municipality and is located within the University housing estate near the University of Jordan.

Dodi Tabbat art exhibit opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — An exhibition of paintings, drawings and collages will open Thursday at the Petra Bank Gallery in Wadi Sagra. The exhibition by Dodi Karim Tabbat will open under the patronage of Princess Wijdan Ali and will run until Nov. 15.

Architect leaves for symposium in U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Architect Rasim Badran left Amman on Wednesday to the U.S. to participate in a symposium on Islamic architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston. Mr. Badran has prepared a paper on the principles and theories of architectural designs for Islamic communities. The symposium, which starts next week at MIT is sponsored by the Aga Khan Foundation, in association with MIT and Harvard University.

Senate endorses Al Wahdah accord

(Continued from page 1)

The Senate passed the draft law enshrining the agreement after a limited discussion on whether it should be referred to the chamber's Legal Committee for evaluation and on whether the accord's 15 articles should be read and discussed during the session.

Senators who were against the two alternatives based their argument on the Senate's internal charter which gives the Senate the right to either endorse or reject the accord. The legislature has no right to amend any agreements and accords reached between the government of Jordan and any other governments.

Although Senator Mohammad Odeh Al Qarara basically supported the law, he said he had some queries regarding the scheme's financial and operational aspects. He suggested that the Senate committee should have a look at the draft law so that more was understood about the accord.

Answering Mr. Qarara's suggestion was Sen. Hassan Al Kayyed who said that any bilateral agreement should be taken as a total entity and not be subjected to segmentation. Hence, "the agreement should be either endorsed or rejected," Mr. Kayyed, a former interior minister, said. He said the pact should not be looked at from the angle of losses or gains, rather, it should be approached and evaluated from positive aspects, he said.

"It is a nationalistic and political accord" that was drafted to clear the Jordanian-Syrian scene of all differences and "it is the biggest achievement" during this era, said Mr. Kayyed.

The dam's cost, to be entirely footed by Jordan, was put by officials at \$230 million, compared to a \$450 million scheme outlined in Jordan's national development plan for 1975-1980. However, other experts have said the eventual bill could range between \$300 million and \$500 million if the cost of turbines, piping, storage and other facilities was to be added.

The 100-metre high dam would hold 222 million cubic metres of water and the reservoir would take one to two years to fill, said Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud.

According to the agreement, an electric power plant would be built to the dam's course. Jordan would take 25 per cent of the generated electricity, while Syria will have 75 per cent.

Jordan would be responsible for setting up the dam project and financing all its design work as well as construction and operation stages. Syria will provide all needed facilities for workers in the project. Jordan will design

and build the dam with a height of 100 metres to store the Yarmouk River water after filling up Syrian dams. The agreement reserves the right for Syria to use the water of all ground wells that may exist on its territories in the Yarmouk basin and its arteries except the waters before the dam and 250 metres under the water level.

Both countries will offer compensation to owners of land, installations and other estates appropriated on its territories in the course of implementing the project in accordance with its laws and regulations. Syria undertakes to settle all matters related to its citizens' rights and claims to water resources and to deal with all compensation connected with this matter. Jordan will bear the cost of all compensations and expenses to be paid inside Syrian territory in return for ownership of these rights.

Under the agreement, Syria is also responsible for transferring the Hijaz railway line and constructing the needed infrastructure for the project. Jordan will cover the cost.

The accord gave the right to both countries to benefit from the dam's lake in their respective territories for investment in the field of tourism and fish breeding in a way that does not obstruct the management of the dam's installations. Jordan will pay all the maintenance cost for the dam.

Sen. Surour expressed hope on Wednesday that the dam would be the forerunner of further "unity projects between Jordan and Syria or between Jordan and other Arab countries."

Sen. Khalifeh said the bilateral pact was "an outstanding achievement." "I don't see any person not welcoming such a breakthrough," he said.

Referring to two previous plans, as early as 1953, to set up the dam, Senator Ali Hassan Odeh said: "All people have been eagerly awaiting to get the dam executed." He added: "This accord we are blessing now will increase irrigation facilities in the Jordan Valley, and will consolidate Jordan's water resources and power-generating capacities."

Since water resources in the Jordan Valley are scarce and farmers can't get water all-year around, they are only able to make two harvests a year.

Agriculture experts say that when more water will reach each unit in the Jordan Valley, farmers would be able to grow summer crops.

Irrigation from the dam, according to Mr. Hmoud, will also allow reclamation of at least 100,000 dunams of land to add to the 350,000 dunams already cultivated in the Jordan Valley.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Lieutenant General Daoud Hanania, the director of the Royal Medical Services, listen to the Wednesday deliberations of the second Pan-Arab Seminar on Leishmaniasis and other Zoonoses. In addressing the session, the Crown Prince welcomed the delegates to the conference and wished them success in their discussions (Petra photo)

Contract signed for designing agricultural research centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture has awarded Al Manar Consulting Engineers a contract to design and supervise the construction of the new National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer and four regional agricultural service centres in Ramtha, Shoubak, Al Mashaq, and Al Rabba. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is contributing \$600,000 to this project.

The contract was signed on Wednesday by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud and the representative of Al Manar Consulting Engineers. Those present for the signing included Dr. Salem Al Lawzi, under secretary for agriculture and Mr. Richard Johnson, acting director of the USAID mission in Jordan.

The facilities to be constructed and renovated will house modern laboratory equipment and will be completed in 1989. They will support the work of researchers and extension agents in helping farmers adopt new methods of crop production that have proved effective in similar growing conditions.

The regional centres will be patterned after the successful centre at Deir Alla in the Jordaa Valley, which was also developed with assistance from USAID.

Delegation to attend FAO meeting in Rome

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation led by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud leaves on Thursday for Rome in order to take part in the 24th meeting of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), which is due to open on Saturday.

The conference, which is a biennial event, is attended by delegates from all FAO member nations. The participants will discuss issues such as the international food situation, FAO contributions to the advancement of food production, the organisation's land reform and rural development programmes and other assistance to Third World countries.

Centre for handicapped children to open in Maan

MAAN (J.T.) — A social welfare society in Maan has completed arrangements for establishing a special education centre for the rehabilitation of the mentally retarded.

The Al Junub Society for the care of the handicapped is being assisted in this endeavour by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF), the Save the Children Fund and the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

According to the society's president, Ahmad Awad Mar'i, the centre is expected to open its

doors in the coming month, offering care for children with mild handicaps between the ages of five and 13. The children will be trained in skills that will enable them to be self-reliant, Mr. Mar'i said.

Once it opens, the centre will accommodate 20 handicapped children, but the number will increase in the future.

The centre has special halls for therapy, lectures and guidance for the handicapped and for the families of the handicapped, as well.

Finnish children's choir warms audience with brilliant performance, sense of friendship

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Following the recent and very successful visit of their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor to Finland, and in the scope of the Jordanian-Finnish friendship, a choir concert was given Tuesday evening by the "Swallows" ensemble at the Evangelical Lutheran Good Shepherd Church in Amman.

For anyone expecting to see just a few singers, the surprise was real: 35 boys and girls from as young as 6 to teenagers, in addition to 12 musicians and 30 other accompanists performed. The musicians brought with them

their own instruments, including: 3 violins, 2 flutes, 1 cello, 2 trumpets, 1 trombone, 1 tuba and even 1 synthesizer. The organ of the church was used.

If music is an international language, the "Swallows" concert was proof of this. For, in spite of the Finnish language that few could understand, the communication was instantly established between the audience and the choir. Nevertheless, Reverend Smir would introduce each song with a short explanation of the lyrics in both Arabic and English.

"Let Us Sing Together," "Still the Bells Are Ringing," "Room

Enough," "The Little Sowers," "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" and other beautiful songs went directly to the heart of the audience. While singing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," the children waved flags of Jordan and Finland. A very moving solo was sung by one of the little girls of the choir in the negro spiritual, "What Kind of Robe Are You Going to Wear."

Both the singers and the musicians (the strings section, in particular) performed brilliantly, and the vision of the beautiful faces of these children from the midnight sun country created a dream-like atmosphere.

Prince Hassan encourages efforts of medical panels

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday met with delegates to the second Pan-Arab Seminar on Leishmaniasis and other Zoonoses Diseases which opened here Tuesday. The Crown Prince welcomed the delegates and wished them success in their discussions which, he said, are of vital importance to the community's health.

The seminar was opened by Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, deputising for Prince Hassan. The minister presented the Crown Prince's speech, in which the Prince emphasised close cooperation among various health organisations and scientific research centres, for the purpose of promoting health for Arab citizens.

Prince Hassan later met with delegates to the third conference of Arab veterinarians, which was concluded in Amman Wednesday.

In addressing the delegates, the Crown Prince underlined the importance of environmental health and preventive and curative medicine, in addition to calling

for the implementation of a programme designed to spread awareness among the public on means for protecting themselves against diseases common to humans and animals.

Prince Hassan also urged the delegates and Arab governments to give proper attention to the issue of food security and to support the work of veterinarians in their fight against animal diseases.

At the end of the meeting, Dr. Abdul Fattah Al Keilani, the conference's chairman, presented Prince Hassan with the shield of the Arab Federation of Veterinarians.

Meanwhile, the conference of

veterinarians ended with the announcement of recommendations and resolutions, which included a call for the establishment of a regional centre for monitoring diseases common to humans and animals.

The conference's final statement recommended a general study of Malta fever, as well as plans for protection against this disease in every Arab country, in view of its seriousness and negative impact on the economy, in general, and animal wealth, in particular.

The statement urged all Arab universities to revise their curricula on veterinary medicine and introduce new techniques that can better address present-day problems and incorporate advanced methods for the treatment of animal diseases.

The conference urged Arab countries to produce more vaccines and veterinary medicines and to hold seminars and training courses for veterinarians to improve their skills and efficiency in diagnosing and dealing with animal diseases.

Haj Hassan meets with ILO team

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan conferred Wednesday with an International Labour Organisation (ILO) team of experts currently on a visit to Jordan.

The team is headed by Dr. Ismail Serajiddin from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

During the meeting, they reviewed the goals of a project for increasing employment prospects for Jordanians in the labour market, currently being executed by the ministry in cooperation with the ILO and the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP).

The UNDP-financed project is designed to support and encourage the employment of local labour in Jordan to meet the goals of the five-year development plan by reducing the unemployment rate.

The project, whose cost will exceed \$1 million, entails developing a data-gathering programme about labour market conditions and employment strategies. It also includes a study on labour migration and its impact on the national economy.

Mr. Haj Hassan expressed his

appreciation for the efforts of the ILO team, as well as his hope that the team will come up with good results.

The ILO team visit is within the framework of preparations for the project.

Also on Wednesday, the minister discussed with the Indian ambassador to Jordan, Gurcharan Singh, Jordanian-Indian relations in the field of labour. Mr. Singh conveyed to the minister an invitation from his Indian counterpart to visit India to sign an agreement for promoting cooperation in labour between the two countries.

Computer literacy to become a fact of life in public secondary schools

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Word has it that, in two years time, if you do not know how to use a computer you will be considered illiterate. With this thought in mind, the Ministry of Education has started a national plan to bring computers to all public secondary schools in Jordan.

Britain allocated £3.229 million of its £10 million soft loan for development programmes, agreed upon by the two governments, in the form of 2,000 computer sets to be installed over a period of three years.

Another £1.835 million was granted to Jordan in the form of expertise, including training of Jordanian personnel, instructors and programmers and dispatching Jordanian technicians and officials to Britain for training.

The introduction of computers into schools is seen as part of the Ministry of Education's plan to overhaul the national educational system, as called for in the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the National Conference on Education held in September.

According to Marwan Muasher, director of the Information Centre at the Ministry of Planning, a national team was formed in February of this year to supervise the implementation of the project. "It is a five-year plan which aims to provide 6,500 computer sets to all 500 public secondary schools in different areas of Jordan," said Mr. Muasher, adding that each school will have between 12 and 14 computer sets by the end of the five-year period.

Computer courses will be obligatory for all first and second-year public secondary school students, and will be optional in the third year. For the two secondary classes, the computer courses will constitute what Mr. Muasher described as "awareness courses," which will teach students about the computer set, the software and hardware, as well as general concepts in language programming.

The computer sets will also serve as "tools for teaching other subjects in Arabic, and there will be programmes which will be written especially to assist the learning process," said Mr. Muasher.

Seventy public secondary schools are already benefiting from this programme this year, and teachers have already trained for a few months in England. The schools currently receiving computer training are spread throughout the Kingdom.

There are 6 centres which will meet weekly to discuss problems which might arise; they are: Greater Amman area (2 centres), Balqa, Irbid, Tafleeh and Maan.

According to Mr. Muasher, the programme is expected to benefit students by improving their general knowledge of computers, teaching them to grasp concepts at their own learning pace rather than the teacher's pace, thereby encouraging them to become more creative by using computers and exploring areas which were not previously open to them.

The programme should also have a major impact on the Jordanian educational system, in general, while benefiting certain subjects, in particular. Mr. Muasher cited the subject of chemistry as an example, because in schools where a chemistry lab is not available, students would be able to view experiments on computers.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 08 DAYS حول العالم في ثمانية أيام

Daily Luncheon Buffet AT THE CROWN HOTEL JORDAN بوفيه غداء فاخر يوميا... في مطعم التاج

Tuesday 3-11-1987 SCANDINAVIAN CLASSICS A sumptuous display of dishes from Northern Europe تشكيلة رائعة من مأكولات شمال أوروبا الثلاثاء ١١-٣-١٩٨٧	Thursday 5-11-1987 FROM SUNNY GREECE An exciting introduction to the offerings of the Greek Isles تفتح بأجمل المأكولات اليونانية الخميس ١١-٥-١٩٨٧	Saturday 7-11-1987 THE BEST OF BRITAIN A wide choice of dishes from Great Britain تشكيلة واسعة من المأكولات البريطانية السبت ١١-٧-١٩٨٧	Monday 9-11-1987 FESTA ITALIANA A mouthwatering assortment of popular pastas and dishes تذوق الطائر والمعجنات والمأكولات الإيطالية الشهيرة الاثنين ١١-٩-١٩٨٧
Wednesday 4-11-1987 AUSTRIAN FAVOURITES A delightful variety of Austrian specialties تذوق المأكولات النمساوية الشهيرة الأربعاء ١١-٤-١٩٨٧	Friday 6-11-1987 VIVE LA FRANCE A taste of the world-famous fine French cuisine. أشهى الأطباق الفرنسية المرموقة الجمعة ١١-٦-١٩٨٧	Sunday 8-11-1987 ARABIAN DELIGHTS A selection of our famous Oriental foods روائع من الأطباق العربية والمقبلات الشهيرة الأحد ١١-٨-١٩٨٧	Tuesday 10-11-1987 A TASTE OF ASIA An exotic variety of specialties from the Far East مجموعة مختارة من مأكولات بلاد شرق آسيا الثلاثاء ١١-١٠-١٩٨٧

For all reservations please call 641361 Ext. 5 دافتر إكسكتيف JD 6,500

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Light at the end of the tunnel?

NOW that the replies of both Iraq and Iran to the proposals of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on implementing Resolution 598 have been made public, it has become clear that whereas Baghdad has stuck to its original position with regard to the sequence of steps leading to the implementation of the resolution, Tehran has begun yet another game of foot-dragging. Iraq, in its reply, insists on an orderly implementation of the U.N. resolution, starting with the call to affect a bona fide cease-fire between itself and Iran, to be followed immediately by withdrawal of the belligerent forces to international borders and culminating in the examination of the issue of responsibility for the outbreak of the war. Iran, on the other hand, appears to be dragging its feet more than ever by raising issues which go beyond the scope of the resolution. For example, Iran is attempting to link its stance on the demand for a cease-fire to the issues of identification of the aggressor and according reparations. Iran also is attempting to preempt the findings of the neutral international body, envisaged in Resolution 598 to investigate the responsibility issue, by insisting that Iraq be identified as the aggressor and that reparations be paid as such. Thus, Iran appears to be putting the cart before the horse once again. This lopsided approach to Resolution 598 also reached irrational proportions when Iran pleaded ignorance as to the whereabouts of its international borders with Iraq.

Yet in spite of the discouraging reply of Iran, one notes that the U.N. secretary general feels encouraged enough by the replies of the two belligerent countries to ask them to dispatch their respective emissaries in order to continue negotiations with him which, he hopes, will lead to the full and orderly implementation of cease-fire resolution. The fact that the two countries have already accepted his invitation to send their representatives to New York for this purpose is certainly a positive step. By keeping the lines of communications with the two parties to the conflict open and by virtue of the fact that the two belligerents have opted to maintain their contacts with the U.N. secretary general, one can detect a glimpse of hope, albeit faint, that all is not lost after all. In the course of the next few weeks, the world will know for certain where Iran truly stands vis-a-vis the proposition of concluding a negotiated settlement to the war. It is a big gamble, perhaps a reckless one, to give Iran the benefit of the doubt for so long in spite of its prolonged procrastination.

But with signs that the leaders of the two superpowers may be restoring the spirit of détente between them, and with expectations that the Amman summit will take the initiative in attempts to end the war, we cannot but be hopeful that there is light at the end of the tunnel to convince Iran of the urgent need to accept a negotiated settlement with Iraq and, behind it, the Arabs. If, in this case, hope is not enough, then trust and confidence in Iraq's ability to remain steadfast and stand up to Iran's intransigence and expansionist aims should be a major source of comfort for all of us. Iran can continue its war of destruction in the Gulf, but only up to a limit; That limit already looms on the horizon. The question is whether the mullahs in Tehran are ready to realise it.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Stop the slide

IT is difficult to say how great are the hopes and the aspirations attached to the coming extraordinary Arab summit meeting which is due to open in Amman on Nov. 8. To have a rough idea about these hopes one has to look at the map of the Arab World and study its problems and difficulties, and also the dangers that threaten the Arab masses and their future. All these problems are on the agenda of the coming meeting, and the Arab leaders are required to find ways of reducing or solving these problems. The first step in this regard should be a serious effort to stop further deterioration in the Arab situation; and this entails preserving solidarity among Arab states and coordination among their governments. This step is essential for any joint action and for giving momentum to any concerted efforts aimed at strengthening the Arab stand. Arab leaders meeting in Amman on Sunday realise that the enemy camp is continuously working towards destroying the Arab Nation and therefore it is incumbent on these leaders to find means of foiling enemy conspiracies and hostile actions. They also realise that in the fight against the enemy, the Arabs should be in one trench helping one another. The coming summit of Amman has an important task: To unify the Arab countries and to pool their efforts and resources so as to make their enemies understand they can never penetrate this strong fortress; and it is necessary, the Arabs will fight in one front against their common enemies. The task of the coming summit is great and noble because it is also seeking peace; but first, the Arab leaders ought to be reconciled and united in their objectives.

Al Dustour: Security Council turn

IRAN and Iraq have sent their replies to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, thus placing the ball once again in the courtyard of the United Nations and its Security Council which had issued Resolution 598 on the Gulf conflict. Nothing is known about the contents of Iran's reply to de Cuellar, but one can realise Tehran's answer from the statements of the speaker of Iran's parliament two days ago which clearly frustrated all hopes of many countries by refusing to make peace with Iraq in accordance with U.N. proposals. There is a number of Security Council members which still hope Tehran will respond favourably to de Cuellar's bid for an end to the conflict and the start of negotiations for peace. But it should be emphasised that the Tehran rulers, with their rather ambiguous replies to de Cuellar, are continuing their attempts to deceive world public opinion so as to escape any sanctions that might be imposed on them by the council. These Security Council members will be frustrated once they take note of the contents of Iran's reply to de Cuellar, which proves beyond doubt Tehran's hardened position and rejection of peace bids. Such Security Council members should then reconsider their stand which had so far delayed the imposition of sanctions on Iran because it is crystal clear for all that no chance exists for persuading Tehran to accept the council's resolution and start peace negotiations except by the force of sanctions. The replies which arrived at de Cuellar's desk represent the final chapter in the U.N. secretary general's mediation efforts.

Iran, Iraq comment on U.N. peace plan

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Following, in unofficial translations obtained by Reuters, are responses by Iran and Iraq to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's latest peace proposals:

Iran

The following are some initial views on the points addressed in your outline of the plan.

Agreement upon D-day could be reached in the process of negotiations when the pace of progress is reasonably ascertained.

Since the government of Iraq has officially nullified the 1975 Algiers accord and has made territorial claims contrary to the letter and spirit of the accord, internationally recognised boundaries between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq are yet to be determined.

Moreover, the correlation and coincidence between withdrawal of forces and the realisation of the consequences of responsibility for the conflict, particularly the issue of reparation of damages for its security must be clearly recognised.

It is understood that the problem of the civilian detainees, missing and deportees will also be dealt with in accordance with the Geneva Convention of 1949.

Negotiations with the secretary general to achieve a comprehensive and just solution constitutes a fundamental element in the outline of the plan.

It is our view that previous negotiations need only be continued in this context. Due to the nature of the matter, this process will at some stage take the form of a tribunal.

The position is reiterated that announcement of Iraq as the aggressor remains a first step toward a just and durable peace.

Assessment of the damages should be comprehensive and inclusive of all damages incurred. Mechanisms should be devised to cover, with sufficient guarantees, all damages comprehensively within a time frame which would have to be agreed upon with the secretary general.

Measures to enhance the security and stability of the region should be drawn up and implemented in a manner that at the end of the present war all responsibilities and potentials for future aggression in the region will be uprooted.

While paragraph 4 of the Security Council mandate granted to your excellency required "full implementation of

the operative paragraphs of resolution 598," the outline of the plan does not contain any provision for implementation of operative paragraph 5 of the resolution.

Notwithstanding the exacerbation of the situation in the Gulf, incorporation of clearest provisions in your plan is imperative.

On the basis of the above, the Islamic Republic of Iran declares its readiness to continue its cooperation and negotiations with your excellency.

D-day is the term used by Perez de Cuellar for the start of a cease-fire and of further measures to implement the Security Council's July 20 resolution that demanded an end to the war.

To envisage a D-day as soon as possible, it is best to try to reach an agreement on the first two steps relating to the responsibility for the conflict and observance of the cease-fire based upon the understanding with the secretary general and proceed with implementation of these two major steps while negotiations continue on other provisions.

Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs

D-day is the term used by Perez de Cuellar for the start of a cease-fire and of further measures to implement the Security Council's July 20 resolution that demanded an end to the war.

Iraq

On this occasion I would like first of all to refer to my letter of 22 July, 1987... which contained in its introductory part the following:

"The Government of Iraq welcomes Resolution 598 and is ready to cooperate with you and with the Security Council in good faith in order to arrive at a comprehensive, just, durable and honourable resolution to the conflict with Iran."

On the basis of this official and documented stand, the Iraqi Government's cooperation with you since the adoption of Security Council Resolution 598 has been sincere and close in order to implement the resolution in good faith and in a sound manner. We now reiterate our readiness to continue this cooperation.

The government of Iraq has seen the paper entitled: "Measures required in the implementation of the outline plan" enclosed with your letter, and has examined it closely and earnestly.

We think your paper is in line with the context of a full implementation of Resolution 598. We welcome and consider it to be a sound approach. On this question, we would like to make the following preliminary observations:

1. It is clear to us and to the Security Council that the basic aim of Security Council Resolution 598 is to establish a durable, just and honourable peace between Iran and Iraq.

Consequently, one of the very essential points is the necessity of placing all steps relating to the implementation of Resolution 598 within the context of achieving a comprehensive and durable peace.

However, if we review closely the behaviour of the Iranian government since the adoption of the resolution on 30 July 1987, we will find, beyond any shadow of a doubt, strong indications of Iran's intention to subvert the peace process.

This has manifested itself in Iran's attempts to change the sequence of the implementation of the operative paragraphs of the resolution, as well as in its attempts to misinterpret the resolution and impose preconditions and concepts that are quite alien to the letter and spirit of the resolution, to its primary objective and to the norms of international law and the United Nations' charter.

It has to be said from the outset that the rule of taking into consideration (the positions of the two parties) when discussing the implementation of the resolution should be dealt with cautiously and carefully.

The position taken by any party should be assessed on the basis of its correspondence to the letter and spirit of Security Council Resolution 598, and to the sequence of the operative paragraphs as laid down in the resolution itself, and in such a way as would serve the aim of achieving peace. This militates against dealing with any position that does not have this quality.

The comprehensive implementation of the resolution requires, first of all, the willingness of not just one party, but of both parties to the dispute, to implement all its paragraphs in good faith, and to make clear such willingness to you and to the Security Council in a documented and unequivocal manner, as indeed has been done by Iraq.

2. The first paragraph of the Security Council Resolution is clear and unequivocal. It reads:

(Demands that, as a first step towards a negotiated settlement, Iran and Iraq observe an immediate ceasefire, discontinue all military actions on land, at sea and in the air, and withdraw all forces to the internationally recognised boundaries without delay.)

It is obvious, therefore, that the immediate implementation of a ceasefire and the withdrawal without delay, being the two interconnected aspects of the first step, should constitute, as stated in the resolution, the first step in the implementation process.

We consider it necessary that the discussion should begin on how to implement the first paragraph of the resolution, which, as the resolution provides, is the first step towards achieving peace and implementing a settlement speedily, faithfully and carefully.

When the first paragraph has been implemented, discussion can be entered into on the other operative paragraphs in the resolution and on how to implement them in such a manner as would actually lead to the establishment of a comprehensive and permanent peace.

This method is in consonance with the letter and spirit of the resolution and with the goal the Security Council has set itself.

It is our profound belief that to enter now into discussions on how to implement the other paragraphs before implementation of the ceasefire and the withdrawal to the internationally recognised boundaries has been achieved, in a climate witnessing continued intensification of Iranian man-

oeuvring and intransigence, means that several more months will be spent in such discussion, in addition to being out of consonance with sequence of the paragraphs as laid down in the Security Council resolution.

In the meantime, the Security Council demands in paragraph 1 of the resolution, with full support of the entire international community, an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal without delay. The conduct of the Iranian government over the period between 20 July and 30 October (120 days) vis-a-vis Security Council Resolution 598 confirms his conclusion beyond any shadow of doubt.

No doubt, the real test of the earnestness of the two parties' desire for peace and of their positions vis-a-vis Security Council Resolution 598, will be seen through the position taken by each party on the full implementation of paragraph 1 of the resolution.

When full and faithful implementation of this pivotal paragraph has been achieved, then we and the other side will be able to start immediately, with your assistance, and in the right regional and international climate, to discuss the implementation of the subsequent operative paragraphs.

3. I have to stress, in this respect, that, despite the trust that the Iraqi Government places in you, a trust which both you and the Security Council have no doubt become certain of throughout many years of working together, the government cannot bind itself beforehand to accepting the decisions of the secretary general, if no agreement is reached between the two parties on specific aspects of the preparations as laid down in the paper attached to your letter.

4. On the subject of the ceasefire and withdrawal and the supervision related to it, we wish to point out the following:

A) You promise in your paper that:

"From a specific date, to be agreed upon, and referred to for the purpose of negotiations as D-day, a ceasefire should be observed."

The Iraqi government is prepared to agree with you on a close ceasefire date as called for in Resolution 598 and to abide by the ceasefire fully and in good faith.

In this regard, I wish to point out that the Iraqi Government finds it difficult to accept the way in which the ceasefire is described in your paper, that is: "As a preliminary and provisional step, providing a breathing space for negotiations of more lasting agreements."

The Iraqi Government believes that, in view of the basic objectives of Resolution 598 which is: "To achieve a comprehensive settlement, between Iran and Iraq," an immediate ceasefire will be only one of the two aspects of the first step towards achieving the said settlement through negotiations.

Connected with this is the other aspect of withdrawal without delay which can hardly be described as a provisional step. The full implementation of the first step as a whole, as dictated by the letter and spirit of the resolution, means, and should be, a durable measure that should not be influenced by any agreements reached between the two parties through the process of negotiation.

B) You also propose that:

"On a specific date after D-day, which would have to be agreed upon, the withdrawal of all forces to the internationally recognised boundaries would start (to be completed within an agreed time)."

As stated in my letter of July 22, 1987, the Iraqi Government sees that the withdrawal to the internationally recognised boundaries should be started on the day following the ceasefire and be completed within 10 days from D-day. Resolution 598 states that the withdrawal should take place without delay, and we explained to you during your visit to Baghdad, the considerations which we take in proposing the 10-day period for the completion of the withdrawal operation.

These considerations are fully in line with the points contained in your paper. I referred in my letter of July 22, 1987 to our experience of withdrawal from the Iranian territory in 1982 which we were able to complete within 10 days without a ceasefire being in effect.

In order to create the right climate for peace as soon as possible and to provide an early opportunity for the discussion of the implementation of the other operative paragraphs in the resolution, Iraq reiterates this brief period for the withdrawal operation and stresses the necessity of taking the measures required to prevent all forms of procrastination and prevarication in the implementation and to keep the situation closely and tightly monitored by the United Nations observers.

C) You propose that: "On D-day, a team of United Nations observers would be despatched to verify, confirm and supervise the ceasefire and subsequently the withdrawal of all forces."

The Iraqi Government is ready to cooperate with you and discuss all preparatory matters contained under this item in your paper. This government is prepared also to cooperate with the head of military observers whom you will appoint to take up this task.

5. These are our preliminary observations and I wish to reiterate to your excellency once again our true desire and full readiness to work with you and with the Security Council for the achievement of a comprehensive, durable and just peace on the basis of a true and faithful implementation of Resolution 598.

Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Towards a unitary democratic state?

By Frank Collins

THE secret meetings of Moshe Amirav, supported by other younger members of the Herut Party, with the Palestinian leaders Faisal Hussein, Sari Nusseiba and Salah Zuhairi (MEI 309) have raised a number of questions including a revival of the issue of the formation of a unified democratic state in Israel and the occupied territories. This was evidently the topic to be explored when the meetings were suspended following their disclosure in the Hebrew newspaper *Kol Ha'ir* and the administrative detention of Faisal Hussein.

At almost the same time, Arafat sent his message to the Israeli leaders through DFPE Knesset member Charlie Biton in what seems to have been a related occurrence. While the message was quickly turned down by both Shamir and Peres and derided in the Hebrew press, it indicated the interest of the PLO in exploring completely new initiatives. Although these events may have no immediate outcome, the question of a unified democratic state with equal rights for Jews and Palestinians needs re-examination.

The very concept of the Jewish state carries with it the undeniable implication of Jews having a preferred status over all other people who live there. The preferred status of Jews is confirmed by the fundamental laws of the state of Israel which provide, among other things, the "law of return" for the exclusive benefit of Jews and the holding of 93 per cent of the land in Israel, and additional lands seized in the occupied territories, in "inalienable trust for the Jewish people."

In actual practice, the preferred status of the Jews under the laws of Israel means that the 800,000 Palestinian Arabs within Israel suffer rank discrimination with respect to civil rights. The 1.3 million Palestinians under occupation have few rights of any kind. Analogous states of affairs prevail in many countries throughout the world, but these countries are not normally classed as democratic. Israel can continue with the present scheme of things that can be easily interpreted as racist or it can abandon the ideology and practice of Jewish civil superiority and establish equal rights for all in a truly democratic state.

However, in the search for a feasible diplomatic settlement of the conflict, the emphasis shifted some years ago to the idea of the separation of the two peoples as embodied in the "two-state" proposal, that is, the creation of a segmented Palestinian state in the presently occupied territories in peaceful coexistence with the existing Jewish state.

It is the idea of the two-state solution that underlies the present call for an international peace conference. But enormous difficulties lie in the way of getting such a conference together, there being no agreement on fundamental issues. These difficulties include the well-known dispute as to whether the Palestinians should be represented by the PLO or, as the United States wants, by a Jordanian delegation including some "moderate" Palestinians.

While Israeli Foreign Minister Peres tours the world advocating an international conference, no consensus exists in Israel for taking part in such a conference at all. The positions of the main parties are clear: The Labour Alignment would press for something like the Allon plan, yielding some portion of the territories to the Palestinians, under conditions that remain quite vague; Likud would not yield one square metre of the territories to anyone. The wide differences in the positions of those who would participate in the proposed international conference make it predictable that no conference will be held in any reasonable time.

Under these circumstances, it becomes clear why alternative approaches are being explored. The meetings between the Herut Party members and the Palestinian leaders, and the Arafat-Biton initiative represent the beginnings of such explorations. There are really only three possibilities: An indefinite prolongation of the occupation, the

two-state solution and the unified democratic state. The problems of the occupation are well-known and will finally become intolerable as discontent keeps growing. The convening of the much discussed international conference to implement a two-state plan appears to be out of the question. This leaves the unified democratic state as the least explored option.

At first sight, this option seems to be the least likely. Powerful forces of tradition and politics block the abandonment of the Jewish state. The Zionists talk about a "demographic time bomb" meaning the time when there will be more Palestinians than Jews in Israel and the occupied territories. The noted "dove" Abba Eban says that giving the vote to the inhabitants of the occupied territories would allow a foreign nation to determine its parliamentary decisions "thus losing the vision of a Jewish state."

The "demographic time bomb" accounts for the Israeli hesitancy in annexing the occupied territories. They are caught in a dilemma. The right-wing Israelis will not give up the occupied territories claiming that they are part of "Eretz Israel" but at the same time they cannot annex them because this would jeopardise Zionism. All this adds up to the expectation that the occupation could continue for a very long time.

But this is an impossibility should the Palestinians increase their resistance to the occupation as indeed they are now doing. The forces of history may be carrying the Israelis and the Palestinians in a common direction — toward a unified democratic state. Unlike the two-state solution which requires the convening of a peace conference for its implementation, the bringing into existence of a secular democratic state is an evolutionary process which requires no consciously planned moves to be made, much to the alarm of Zionists like Abba Eban.

— Middle East International, London.

Weinberger: From budget-cutter to budget booster

WASHINGTON (AP) — Caspar W. Weinberger, whose zealous budget-cutting more than a decade ago earned him the nickname "Cap the knife," has spent the last seven years promoting the biggest peacetime military spending increase in U.S. history.

The two roles for Weinberger, who sources say has decided to resign as President Ronald Reagan's defence secretary, were not as inconsistent as they might appear at first glance.

As President Richard Nixon's budget director, Weinberger's principal budget-cutting targets were social programmes born during the administration of President Lyndon Johnson.

He argued then, as he has throughout the Reagan administration, that military spending should be exempt from the kind of deep cuts he advocated in domestic spending.

After taking over the Pentagon job in 1981, he presided over a record \$2 trillion military buildup.

Weinberger's seven years as defence secretary, just four months shy of Robert S. McNamara's record tenure in the 1960s, also have been marked by heightened U.S. military activity around the world.

The U.S. invasion of Grenada in October 1983, the April 1986 air attacks on Libya and the current buildup of U.S. forces in the Gulf all came with Weinberger at the helm.

The 70-year-old Weinberger, a close friend of Reagan who shares the president's staunchly anti-Communist views, emerged early as a strong voice within the administration.

In doing so, he confounded conservative critics such as Howard Phillips of the Conservative Caucus, who complained in 1981 that nominating a budget-cutter to the Defence Department job would "send all the wrong messages" to U.S. allies.

Instead, Weinberger aggressively took the U.S. military's message to those allies, travelling frequently around the world to



Caspar Weinberger

visit American military installations and urge Western leaders to present a united front against the Soviet Union.

In fact, it was Weinberger's deep suspicion of Soviet motives that led to an incident many observers saw as weakening his influence in the administration two years ago.

As Reagan travelled to Geneva in October 1985 for his first summit with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev, someone leaked a letter from Weinberger to his boss strongly urging Reagan to resist Soviet pressure on arms control issues.

The letter was widely cited as evidence of disarray within the Reagan camp as the president sought to produce an arms control treaty. The summit ended inconclusively, and Weinberger was pointedly absent from last year's follow-up summit meeting in Iceland.

Weinberger's strong opposition to the administration's secret arms sales to Iran also put him at odds with Reagan, but if the relationship forged between the two men in California state government in the 1960s sometimes bent, it never broke.

Weinberger earned a law degree from Harvard in 1941, then enlisted in the military as a private. By the end of World War II he was married to the former Jane Dalton and was a captain on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's intelligence staff.

Setting up a law practice in San Francisco after the war, he became involved in Republican politics. Weinberger served in the California assembly in the 1950s and, as a self-described "frustrated journalist," wrote newspaper columns on the side.

In 1968, with Reagan in the governor's office, Weinberger was named California finance director. In January 1970 he was summoned to Washington to become the chairman of the Federal Trade Commission under Nixon, and that summer he joined the office of management and budget, first as deputy director and then as director.

It was there that he won the nickname "Cap the knife" for his ruthless attacks on federal spending.

In February 1973, Weinberger became secretary of health, education and welfare, but he left the government in August 1975 to work for the giant multi-national development company, Bechtel Corp., in California.

There he worked with George P. Shultz, who would become secretary of state under Reagan and an occasional Weinberger foe, in internal administration battles over military and diplomatic policy.

Despite his frequent clashes with the State Department, Weinberger succeeded in what he announced as his No. 1 goal when he took the defence job in 1981. That was a massive buildup of American military might, and during the first years of the Reagan administration, U.S. military expenditures grew enormously.

Weinberger described Winston Churchill as "one of my great heroes," and he cited the British leader's early warnings in the 1930s about growing German military power.

"He warned that Europe must rearm against the threat from the Germans, and he was right — they barely did it in time," Weinberger said. "I am trying to emphasise the fact that I see some rather deadly parallels."

Palestinians nurse grievances, flickering hopes of return

By Alistair Lyon

Reuter

AMMAN — "All I remember is running from one house to the other. Never in my life have I felt at home. I fled Palestine with my parents when I was a small girl and I have fled a dozen times inside Lebanon, never settling down."

Fatima Fayoum's story of constant insecurity is commonplace in Lebanon's shell-scarred refugee camps. "I feel bitter. I want revenge on I don't know who, maybe the whole world," she says.

After four decades on the run, she now lives with her five children in the small West Beirut camp of Mar Elias, swollen with fugitives from nearby camps besieged by Shi'ite militiamen.

Shantytowns like this, where refugees live 15 to a room, still house a third of the 2.2 million Palestinians registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which provides education and health services, and some food relief.

Degrees of squalor vary, but refugee settlements dotting Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are a reminder that the plight of those driven from their homeland when Israel was created in 1948 or in the Arab-Israeli war of 1967 remains an open sore in the Middle East.

"Being a refugee is not a dis-

grace," muses an old man in a Damascus camp. "But disgrace will befall those responsible for our miseries. We await the day of our victorious return."

Ritual expressions of fierce nationalism are heard again and again, but some Palestinians strike a more wistful note.

"With every passing day, we feel Palestine is further away," Ali Abdelal, 26, a school teacher in South Lebanon, says. "What worries us is that one day Palestine will become a story that grandchildren tell their grandchildren round the fireplace."

"I'm a Palestinian, but I feel more Lebanese. If I go back to Palestine I will feel like a stranger," says Sahri Musa, 31.

Since 1948 many displaced Palestinians have prospered in the diaspora. But for many refugees, the struggle to earn a living, to feed and educate their children, still dominates daily life.

In the West Bank and Gaza, the 818,000 UNRWA-registered refugees, who make up more than half the territories' Arab population, also have to cope with Israeli occupation.

A majority of Gaza's 445,000 refugees huddle in tin-roofed shelters in crowded, flood-prone camps. Garbage rots in the mostly unpaved, treeless streets. The Israelis do not allow extensions to the two-room shelters housing up to 20 people.

In Jabalyah and Rafah camps, Gaza's biggest with 50,000 residents each, population density rivals that of Calcutta.

UNRWA runs elementary and preparatory schools, with two shifts a day and around 50 children to a class.

The agency, with a staff of 4,000, is the biggest employer in Gaza. The fishing industry generates 1,000 jobs, but about 60,000 trek north daily to work as low-paid labourers in Israel.

Nobody wants Gaza. Egypt, which ruled it from 1948-67 did not ask for it back in the 1978 Camp David accords with Israel.

"Gaza is Israel's Soweto," says a foreign relief worker. Like the black suburbs of Johannesburg, it is a source of cheap, plentiful labour denied civil and residence rights.

The West Bank has fewer refugees, with 373,000 out of a Palestinian population of around 750,000, and only a quarter live in camps. Balata, near Nablus, is the biggest with 12,000.

Israeli security authorities see the camps, where children in their early teens often stage stone-throwing demonstrations, as centres of subversion and unrest.

An officer of Israel's Shin Bet security service supervises each shantytown. Palestinians say these chiefs, often known by Arab nicknames, exercise tyrannical power.

In Arab states, conditions for refugees vary, but are most wretched in Lebanon, where 278,000 are registered with UNRWA.

Palestinian fighters use camps as power bases in parts of Lebanon. Down the years these have borne the brunt of assaults by Israelis, Syrians and Lebanese Christian and Shi'ite forces.

Three camps in Christian areas were razed during 1975-76 civil war battles.

Others in west Beirut and the South Lebanon were pounded in Israel's 1982 invasion, when Christian militiamen massacred hundreds of civilians in Sabra and Shatila camps.

Since 1985, fighting between Palestinians and the Shi'ite Amal militia has killed at least 2,500 people.

"My legs were amputated when a shell hit me in Rashidiyeh (a southern camp under Amal siege)," said Abdullah Safadi, a father of five. "We fled the camp because of the siege, but life outside was worse. We spend our lives in fear of the future."

Beirut's Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps, 90 per cent destroyed in the fighting with Amal, remain blockaded.

Women have been allowed out to buy food since Syrian troops deployed near the camps in April, but men are trapped inside.

Refugees cannot rebuild their shattered houses. Alleys are muddied by broken sewers and there is no electricity or piped water. Shell-damaged hospital walls are patched with brickwork.

Foreign doctors said refugees were reduced to eating cats and dogs at the height of the siege. Residents rate the camps war as their worst experience since the 1948 exodus to Lebanon.

Lebanon never granted Palestinians the civil rights they enjoy in Syria or Jordan. Palestinian women can acquire Lebanese nationality by marrying a Lebanese but men cannot.

The majority, who hold government-issued cards identifying them as Palestinian refugees, cannot work in public service and need special permits to work in the private sector.

"Here we are only a working class," said Ahiad Karshat, 40. "We can't work in commerce or industry and most Palestinians now live on money from their sons in the Gulf Arab countries."

Almost all Jordan's 845,000 refugees are Jordanian citizens. An international relief worker said their lot was easier than in

other host-countries, thanks to what he called a "moderate, liberal and stable regime."

Those without citizenship, like the 17,000 Gaza refugees at a camp near Jerash, north of Amman, can get work as casual farm labourers in the Jordan Valley or on construction sites.

"Now some of us are getting citizenship, but this is still the poorest camp in Jordan," one resident said. "Unemployment is 30 per cent and people have no hope, no prospects."

In one shack, flies crawl on the face of an infant wrapped in filthy blankets on the bare concrete floor. Two dozen people — a jobless man, his two wives and their children — live within the cracked walls of two small rooms.

Syria's 257,000 registered refugees are denied nationality and voting rights to avoid prejudice to their right to return home, but otherwise are generally treated like Syrians.

They may own land, houses, or businesses, hold government jobs and perform compulsory military service.

Palestinian refugees, even those leading settled lives in Syria or Jordan, generally express intense national feelings.

"Like most Palestinians, my ambition is to have an identity, a country of our own and an end to massacres," said Mohammad Darwish, 32, in Lebanon. "We want a real feel of freedom."

Palestinian parents teach their children minute details of villages they left 40 years ago, down to the trees and flowers. Despite the carefully-instilled traditions, some younger Palestinians find it hard to relate to an unknown homeland.

"The generation that fled Palestine doesn't stop dreaming about going back," said Ahmed, 25. "But how can I dream of Palestine when I have never seen it or drunk its water?"

Randa Habib's

... And Randa said 'Let there be dialogue...'

THE other day I said to myself that the basic problem of humanity was the lack of dialogue.

If people talked openly to each other and listened earnestly, to what the other party has to say, then so many problems would be solved. And this is especially true when it comes to people from the same race, who share the same beliefs. Why should they choose to be enemies and not friends? Instead of building walls people should dismantle existing ones. They should listen to each other without suspicion; accept the fact that there is another side in the truth than one's own. People should try to understand others deeply, calmly; their aims, their motives and the reasons for their actions. They should not be quick to condemn and, if necessary, should be ready to forgive.

Let dialogue be open, bearing in mind that the purpose is to get closer in order to get stronger. Don't you feel that one can conquer the world when he or she knows that he or she has a friend to trust and rely on? Mistrust is a reason for unhappiness and unhappiness is a cause of weakness.

I pray that the Arab leaders who will gather soon under the beautiful sky of Jordan will share my hopes for a healthy dialogue.

Each mile is one more good reason to fly Royal Jordanian



Mr. Imad Said, Jordanian Businessman

Punctual service, good connections to and from the Middle East, a worldwide network - these are just some of the ways Royal Jordanian makes sure its standards are as high as possible.

And now, we are pleased to offer you our Frequent Flyer incentive program - where every flight automatically credits you with mileage points. And what do you win?

Awards that range from upgrading to free tickets - even to destinations as far away as Los Angeles. Joining is simple. Just complete an enrollment form available at any one of our sales offices.

Easy, free - and each mile you fly is one more great reason to fly Royal Jordanian.

Setting new standards

AMMAN • ABU DHABI • AMSTERDAM • AQABA • ATHENS • BAHRAIN • BANGKOK • BEIRUT • BELGRADE • BRUSSELS • BUCHAREST • CAYMAN ISLANDS • CHICAGO • COPENHAGEN • DUBAI • Doha • DUBAI • FRANKFURT • GENEVA • ISTANBUL • JEDDAH • KARACHI • KUALA LUMPUR • KUWAIT • LARNACA • LONDON • LOS ANGELES • MADRID • MOSCOW • MUSCAT • NEW YORK • PARIS • RIYADH • ROME • SANA'A • SINGAPORE • TRIPOLI • TUNIS • VIENNA

ROYAL JORDANIAN
الخطوط الاردنية



Children dig into the rubble of a devastated Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut (File photo)

Dubai's falcon doctors minister to a gap in time

By Jeffrey Bartholot

Reuter

DUBAI — An old bedouin recently emerged from the desert into this cement, glass and neon city on the Gulf coast carrying a favourite falcon which had fallen ill.

He went straight to Americans David and Cheryl Remple who run a hospital in Dubai for the prized hunting birds.

"He'd never been in a hospital before," recalled Cheryl.

"When we tried to explain what he had to do, he said he'd just as soon let the bird loose — for certain death. It was too confusing for him."

The Remples work on the border between the old and the new, their modern hospital catering for birds at the centre of a centuries-old Arab passion.

If a falcon dies in the Remples' care, "the bedouin always say it's God's will, don't worry about it," said David.

"But the flip side is, no matter how hard you work and no matter what a hero you are, when the falcon gets better, it's God's will too."

In the past, falcons were caught during their autumn migration from Russia to Africa, and then trained to hunt other desert fowl during the winter months.

Before the fatal heat of summer arrived, they were released for the journey back to cooler climates.

Today, falconry is more a sport than a means of subsistence. Most falcons are bought rather than caught — for prices ranging up to tens of thousands of dollars. Royal family members buy

Falconry is one of the few traditions left from a spartan nomadic life which, until a few decades ago, afforded little leisure.

It remains, along with camel-racing, an enthusiasm pursued as ardently by the old bedouin of the desert as by city-dwellers made fabulously rich through oil.

"We get guys in here who used to fight in the tribal camel wars and this kind of stuff," said Lindsay Oaks, a native of Colorado who works as a part-time veterinarian in the hospital set up by Dubai's ruling Maktoum family.

Much has changed in the desert and the bedouin now usually travel by pick-up truck. But the truck will be parked in the sand outside the tent, and matters such as disease and death are still traditionally left in God's hands.

scores of birds and give or loan them to friends and acquaintances.

Airconditioning allows falconers to keep their prized birds all year round, and modern science keeps the falcons healthy.

The Remples came to Dubai from the United States in 1983 on a three-month mission to start the hospital for Sheikh Hamdan, one of the Maktoum royalty, in answer to an advertisement in a U.S. journal.

They later accepted the sheikh's invitation to stay in Dubai.

"I've got a good boss, the best I ever had," said David. "Sheikh Hamdan is more a father figure than anything — a real gentleman."

Fragrance frontiers: Babies, elderly, athletes, Third World

By Charles Campbell

The Associated Press

PARIS — Top-quality perfume sales are stagnant, and the freshest ideas in fine fragrance include reaching out to new customers — from babies to athletes to the unperfumed masses of the Third World.

Leaders in the 8-billion-dollar business met Tuesday for the third biennial International Perfume Conference — a succession of slide shows, throbbing music, statistical reports and panel discussions on the future of smelling good.

Perfume is not just something for elegant ladies or men about town.

"Perfume for babies — that seems crazy," Philippe Maubert of the French fragrance company Robertet told the Associated Press during a break.

"But what happens when a baby is born?" he asked. "You give a present. Why should it be a shirt? Why shouldn't it be a bottle of perfume?"

The morning began with a sound-and-light show spread over the Palais de Congress's three

giant screens, showing that North America and Europe still account for 78 per cent of the perfume industry's sales.

"The rest of the world — considered in the 1970s as the Eldorado of the year 2000 — has not seen the perfume explosion that was counted on," a recorded voice-over in French said.

Although the "rest of the world," accounts for 87 per cent of the population, those people only spend 30 cents per year on perfume.

The value of worldwide perfume sales was 7.93 billion in 1986, up 36 per cent from 1980. But Spiro Coutarel, director of research for the Swiss company European Forecasts, told the conference that soaring prices for perfume masked a decline in the actual amount sold.

"While the worst is probably over, the unit decline continues," Coutarel said.

"What we should be looking for is new niches," said Antony Griffiths, president of the U.S. subsidiary of the Japanese firm Takesago International Fragrances Corp.

"There's no reason we can't develop a fragrance that's especially for old people," he said during one of the debates.

Griffiths said fear of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) could harm perfume lines brought out in recent years with an image suggestive of casual sex.

"AIDS has made promiscuous sex something very dangerous," he said. "I think we're going to see a lot less sex in fragrance."

Lindsay Owen-Jones, vice president of L'oreal, the world's largest perfume manufacturer, told the final session that he found "absurd" the suggestion the perfume market is saturated. "Enormous continents exist that we've barely touched," he said. "I think of the Soviet Union."

For all the gloom, there was little concern about the impact of crashing stock prices around the world.

"Whenever there is economic uncertainty and the stock market is down, that's when people buy fragrances, for themselves and for others," said Leonard Lauder, president of Estee Lauder Inc.

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30-Midnight

Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳

MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.

Chinese Flaming pot is available

Take away available

Open daily 12:00 - 15:30

18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge

Amman, Jordan

Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.

6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TAIWAN TOURISMO

Authentic Chinese Food

Korean Bar-B-Q

Charcoal Flaming Pot

Take-away service

Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akliah Hospital

Tel: 641093

EVERY DAY

PEOPLE WHO NEED

MAINTENANCE SERVICES

CALL US!

Electrolux

P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

The Ideal Residence for Expatriates & Businessmen

DAROTEL داروتيل

Tel: 668193 - Telex 23888 DAROTL - Fax 602434

Shmeisani - Amman

Luxuriously furnished studio apartments

To Satisfy Good Taste

HOTEL ★ APARTOTEL ★ RESTAURANT

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 664099, 660852

Tlx: 22205 BESMCO JO

Cable: Nuseibeh

P.O. Box 928487

AMMAN JORDAN

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

667171/6-670141/4

Ext. 223

U.S. reassures Israel of no slash in aid

TEL AVIV (AP) — A top U.S. defence official met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and assured him U.S. aid to Israel would not be slashed despite proposed cuts in the U.S. federal budget, a Shamir aide said Wednesday.

Assistant Secretary of defence Richard Armitage and Mr. Shamir also discussed U.S. compensation to Israel for scrapping the Lavi fighter plane in line with U.S. wishes, said Shamir aide Avi Pazner. The Armitage visit came at a time of Israeli concern that Washington might cut aid to Israel to reduce the U.S. budget deficit and stabilise the economy shaken by the Wall Street crisis.

Israel currently receives \$3 billion a year from Washington, including \$1.8 billion in military aid.

"He (Mr. Armitage) calmed our fears, but now we have to see what Congress will do," said Pazner.

In the meeting on Tuesday, Mr. Armitage assured Mr. Shamir that U.S. aid to Israel would remain constant for the next two years, Pazner said.

U.S. officials gave such assurances earlier this year as an incentive for Israel to drop the mainly U.S.-funded Lavi project which had run over budget.

Pazner said Mr. Armitage and Mr. Shamir also talked about other Lavi compensation measures, including the purchase of U.S.-built F-16 jet fighters to serve as substitutes for the Lavi, aid to Israeli industry and joint U.S.-Israeli industrial projects. Pazner would not elaborate.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7475/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3225/35	Canadian dollar
	1.7088/95	West German marks
	1.9215/25	Dutch guilders
	1.4090/4100	Swiss francs
	35.73/78	Belgian francs
	5.8200/50	French francs
	1262/1263	Italian lira
	136.85/95	Japanese yen
	6.1275/1325	Swedish crowns
	6.4450/4500	Norwegian crowns
	6.5950/6000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	467.00/467.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — U.K. shares staged a limited rally after surprise news of a half-point cut in U.K. base lending rates to nine per cent, but a decline on Wall Street caused some hesitation and dealers said the interest rate fall was largely discounted.

The FTSE 100 index quickly rose 10 points but soon resumed its fall before rallying to stand around 15 points above its worst level on the day. Dealers reported little real buying, saying worries about the U.S. budget and trade deficits were still paramount with no news emerging from negotiations between the White House and congressional negotiators.

Dealers here said it would take more than a half-point cut in U.K. base rates to turn market sentiment. There was some disappointment that the reduction was not a full one point but even this may not have had a great effect on the market.

Operators had expected U.K. Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson to give some clue to his interest rate policy in his Mansion House speech Wednesday night and said they were now looking for an explanation from Lawson as to his thinking.

Most in the market had expected any fall in U.K. interest rates to form part of a coordinated international move, but this was seen as dependent on U.S. action to cut its deficits.

Dollar edges up but stocks slump in nervous markets

LONDON (R) — The dollar edged back from all-time lows against several leading currencies on Wednesday, but stock markets around the world fell as investors remain gloomy about prospects for the global economy.

London stocks had fallen by mid-session below their value at the time of the Big Bang deregulation just over a year ago, while the Tokyo market, closed on Tuesday for a public holiday, dropped 1.3 per cent on Wednesday.

The dollar steadied just below 137 yen and 1.71 West German marks in Europe on Wednesday morning. After the West German central bank bought \$100.6 million to boost its value, the U.S. currency was fixed in Frankfurt at 1.7090 marks.

On Tuesday, the dollar had hit a post-war low of 135.95 yen and was quoted during the course of trading at 1.6995 marks, matching an all-time low.

Gold, a haven for investors when the dollar is weak, firmed to be fixed in London on Wednesday morning at \$467 an ounce, up \$2.75 but still well off the afternoon setting of \$481 on "Black Monday", Oct. 19.

"All the worries about the U.S. budget and trade deficits and the weak dollar have surfaced," said one London stockbroker. "I have never seen such a nervous market."

Few investors seem to feel it is worth buying either dollars or shares until the United States takes concrete steps to cut its budget and trade deficits and until countries running big trade surpluses, notably West Germany, boost their economies.

And as the tug-of-war between Washington and Bonn continues, many investors are betting that central bankers have secretly agreed to let the dollar slide. That is why they feel free to bail out of dollars, too.

"The U.S. feels that's the only way it can pressure the Germans to finally take steps to expand," said Mr. Sykes Wilford, an economist at merchant bankers Drexel Burnham Lambert, in London.

"The idea is to make the Deutschmark so strong that you even get other Europeans calling for expansion," he said.

On Tuesday, the Dutch, central bank cut interest rates by one quarter of a percentage point, the sort of move U.S. officials are urging on West Germany's Bundesbank.

Some economists see the Bank of France's move to loosen its reins a bit on the value of the franc within the eight-nation European Monetary System (EMS) as part of an effort to increase pressure for West German expansion.

But in Tokyo, some economists say Japanese and West German firms have weathered the dollar's slide fairly well, which could mean there is less pressure on the governments to do much to stop the U.S. currency sliding further. Bankers and currency analysts

in West Germany think the Bundesbank is willing to let the dollar slide more, even as economists worry that a weak dollar is starting to bite the country's export-led economy.

A weak dollar gives American exports an edge when dollar prices are converted into local currencies. It also forces up the price of imports to the United States.

The Bank of France action could have the same effect — and France is a major market for neighbouring West Germany.

Frankfurt shares have been sliding all week, and one broker said: "There is a lot of fear because of the dollar." The Boersen-Zeitung 30-share index fell 2.4 per cent to a 1987 low of 296.61.

The gloom spread to London, too, where the benchmark Financial Times Stock Exchange (FTSE) 100-share index fell below its value on the day, Oct. 27, 1986, when the Big Bang deregulation transformed London's stock exchange.

That sweeping reform, named for a theory of astronomers on the creation of the universe, opened the market up to outsiders, including foreign banks, and so cut the cost of dealing. It helped encourage millions of Britons to play the market.

But the FTSE's 4.96 per cent, or 82.1 point, slide to a morning low of 1,571.8 on Wednesday suggested that many of the newcomers to the market, who bought shares since Big Bang and held on to them, have lost money.

The FTSE's value on Big Bang day was 1,586.2.

"To see the gains of the year wiped out is very depressing," said one dealer. "If this mood continues and we get some bad news it could easily turn into another dramatic rout."

Paris, Zurich and Milan shares all fell. Amsterdam's CBS All Share index set a 1987 low.

In Tokyo, the Nikkei 225-share fell 298.07 points, or 1.3 per cent, to 23,060.33. Shares fell sharply in Hong Kong and Sydney and eased in Singapore.

Japan's finance minister calls for quick action

Japan's finance minister Wednesday called for quick action by the United States to reduce its budget deficit in order to stabilise currency rates.

Mr. Kiichi Miyazawa suggested that European countries have been hesitant to intervene fully in currency markets to support the dollar because of concern about U.S. willingness to deal with its budget deficit.

Speaking at a news conference, the finance minister said other countries want the United States to find a solution quickly to its

budget problems.

Asked if the dollar's decline would hurt Japan's economy, Mr. Miyazawa said, "It's not good for the Japanese economy and we're trying to cope with the situation."

Mr. Kunihiko Ono, a spokesman for Nomura Securities, said investors Wednesday were selling a wide range of export-oriented stocks because of the falling dollar, which tends to make Japanese exports more expensive and therefore less competitive.

"The Tokyo market is likely to remain weak until the dollar stabilises," he said.

Sell orders in Tokyo outnumbered buy orders by almost two-to-one when the stock market opened Wednesday, with foreigners accounting for about 90 per cent of the shares offered for sale, according to a survey by Nikko Securities reported by Kyodo News Service.

Turnover in the market's first section totalled an estimated 300 million shares during the morning session.

After opening at 137.20 yen, a record low for the Tokyo foreign exchange market, the dollar moved as low as 136.80 yen during morning trading, despite intervention by the Bank of Japan, which bought more than \$150 million in the first 75 minutes after the market opened, according to estimates by traders.

The U.S. currency then edged up, closing the morning at 137.00 yen.

The previous record low for the dollar in Tokyo was set April 27, when the dollar momentarily hit 137.25 yen.

Reagan says he is determined to end deficit 'menace'

In Washington President Reagan said on Tuesday he was determined to deal with the menace of deficit spending as White House and congressional negotiators entered their seventh day of talks on reducing the federal budget deficit.

But while reaffirming that everything was on the table in the negotiations except social security, President Reagan cited with apparent approval a warning by some economists that higher

taxes could chill the economy.

President Reagan said the stock market slide "is one warning we can't afford to ignore. One way or another, we're going to put the public menace of deficit spending behind bars," he said.

But without mentioning directly Democratic moves to impose new taxes as part of a deficit reduction package, President Reagan quoted a New York Times article last week as saying that new taxation could "chill the economy, reduce personal and business incomes, and thus lower tax receipts."

The cure for the twin budget and trade deficits "may be worse than the disease," President Reagan said.

Saying some felt that it was time to "isolate ourselves in a darkness of protectionism," President Reagan announced that 38 senators had "signed up... to make sure our trade message remains one of openness, fairness and, yes, productivity."

In a letter to President Reagan, released by the White House, the 38 senators said: "In the light of events in the stock market, we wish to assure you once again, Mr. President, that we will oppose the enactment of protectionist legislation which would have adverse consequences on the U.S."

Congressional sources said the administration had tried but failed to get a stronger letter pledging outright to vote to uphold a possible presidential veto of trade legislation now pending in Congress.

President Reagan has promised to veto the trade bill if the administration is unable to persuade a joint House-Senate conference committee to eliminate what officials say are protectionist provisions.

President Reagan discussed the budget deficit negotiations earlier on Tuesday with congressional Republican leaders.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters that President Reagan's chief of staff Howard Baker, a member of the negotiating team, "indicated that some progress had been made."

The spokesman said it was inaccurate to describe the negotiations as "falling apart."

President Reagan and "every-one in the White House, is keenly aware of the fragility of the markets and of the need to seriously pursue these negotiations," the spokesman said.

Congressional Democratic budget leaders proposed on Tuesday cutting the U.S. federal budget deficit by about \$80 billion over two years as a way to nudge "stalled" White House and congressional talks into action.

A congressional source said the Democrats offered a package to cut the deficit in the current government year — estimated as high as \$179 billion — by some \$30 billion and about \$50 billion in the next year starting Oct. 1.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Lawton Chiles and House Budget Committee Chairman William Gray presented their plan to get the talks, now into the second week, moving, aides said.

The key first year goal of the negotiators is to cut at least \$23 billion in the first year.

House Speaker Jim Wright, briefed on the plan by Mr. Gray, told reporters that the plan was "clearly more than \$23 billion this year... and substantially more than that next year."

The discussions were initiated as a way to get a unified agreement on reducing budget deficit, which analysts said would help calm jittery financial markets.

An aide to Mr. Chiles said the plan was designed to focus the talks onto a comprehensive package rather than attacking the problem piecemeal.

"Its intent is to move the talks along instead of arguing over any one proposal," he said.

But one Democratic negotiator, House Democratic leader, Mr. Thomas Foley, trying to lower expectations, said he did not expect the bipartisan talks to produce any more than a \$24 billion reduction in the deficit over one year.

When the Chiles and Gray plan was discussed during the morning session, White House negotiators led by Treasury Secretary James Baker neither accepted nor rejected it, Mr. Foley, a Washington State Democrat, said.

"They didn't agree to it, they didn't disagree to it, they asked

questions," he said.

One of the key differences between the White House and Democrats controlling Congress is the mix between taxes and spending cuts, with the Democrats wanting an even split.

Byrd doubts commitment

Senate majority leader, Mr. Robert Byrd, said Tuesday he does not believe the White House has been negotiating seriously enough with Congress in their joint budget deficit-reduction talks.

"I'm not happy thus far" Mr. Byrd, an opposition Democrat, told reporters when asked whether he was satisfied with administration input at the talks.

"Before they make progress, they have to have the president acting in a way that is perceived by all as wholeheartedly engaging in the discussions," he said.

Asked if that was lacking so far, he responded, "the answer to that is yes."

Economist sees depression unless rich are taxed

Meanwhile, a controversial economist predicted a depression by 1990 unless taxes were raised for the wealthiest Americans, but his proposal was criticised by other economists on a Senate panel.

Mr. Ravi Batra, an economics professor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and author of the best-selling book, "The Great Depression of 1990," said America's economic problems were due in large part to a growing concentration of wealth by a few very rich individuals.

"It (the book) argues that unless some reforms are immediately undertaken, the 1990s will experience an economic disaster dwarfing the Great Depression of the 1930s. This is a conclusion not shared by conventional economists," Mr. Batra told a hearing of the Senate Republican task force on the economy.

Mr. Batra called for a wealth tax on anyone with a net worth of \$2 million or more — about one per cent of the population — which he said would raise \$250 billion to wipe out the federal budget deficit.

Fear of Japanese oil embargo alarms Iran

TOKYO (R) — Iran is sending senior oil officials to talk to Japanese customers in the hope of averting any compliance with the U.S. call for an embargo on Iranian oil, industry sources said on Wednesday.

They said the visit by officials from the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), beginning on Thursday, had not been expected.

"I think Iran is very concerned that Japan will join in the U.S. economic sanctions," said one Japanese refiner.

Last week, Japan officially turned down a U.S. request to cooperate in economic sanctions, including an oil embargo, against

Iran.

But the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) asked Japanese oil companies not to increase purchases from Iran under long-term contracts and not to buy Iranian oil on the spot market, Japanese trading-house sources said.

Japanese companies have contracts to buy nearly 300,000 barrels per day of Iranian oil, some eight per cent of total oil imports.

The current contracts mostly expire at the end of December. "I think Iran wants to sound out the Japanese to see if they will renew their contracts in January," said a trader for a Japanese trading house.

"MITI hasn't mentioned anything so far about January but most Japanese believe we shouldn't renew," he said.

But he said neither MITI nor the Japanese oil companies had a clear idea what would happen in January or what steps the United States might take next to encourage Japan to join its embargo.

"Japanese companies will not be able to commit themselves before they get prior approval from MITI, even if they get a very good offer from NIOC," the trader said.

The sources said it was possible that Iran would offer to discount the official selling prices of its crude oil to Japanese customers.

"They will probably ask us to lift more crude," a Japanese refiner said. "But I hope Iran will not offer discounts at this time because we cannot increase our volumes under MITI's guidelines."

"We have not received any official instruction from MITI but we know we cannot increase the volume from the contract level."

One Japanese trading-house source said both MITI and the Japanese oil industry realised the issue was politically sensitive.

"We are proceeding with this matter very carefully and slowly. Neither party has a clear idea what we should do about it yet," he said.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Focus your attention on financial and material matters and make those mundane decisions which you tend to put off. People around you are concerned primarily with themselves, so listen more.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Look into new modes of expression in your business life; opportunities abound. If you need advice, listen only to qualified opinions.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you're unwilling to compromise a little, you could have quite an argument with a stubborn partner. Be careful in matters of sex.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Find a way to remove obstacles and other restrictions which have been impeding your progress. Avoid a talkative ne'er-do-well.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Improve relationships with old friends you haven't seen for some time. Be sure you drive with the utmost care tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan your schedule carefully so you'll spend as much time at home as at work, while neglecting neither. Pay attention to your health.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Many changes are in the offing, so

be prepared for them even though they may happen slowly. Be more practical in your thinking.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take a good look at the state of your budget. Chances are you'll see it needs some serious revision. Try to economize more in the future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are very determined to get your way today, but you'll find that another person is just as eager. Keep your temper in public.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Listen to the advice of a co-worker who usually have no use for. This person can point out something you've been overlooking.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A new course of action can help your success if you use a little charm to get it under way. Enjoy the company of friends tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Focus your attention on the domestic scene today. Take your family out for dinner or some entertainment this evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A close friend will introduce you to some contacts who can be of assistance to you in the days ahead. Be friendly and sociable.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

This is a bad time to take any risks where money or property matters are concerned, but rather check your debts and credits to see that they are correct. Avoid being too aggressive with associates.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Re-check any facts and figures given to you by others. Don't allow a time-wasting friend to throw you off schedule and ruin your mood.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't be so critical of yourself. If you look a bit more carefully, you'll see that you're actually "head-and-shoulders above the crowd."

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A greedy acquaintance may be eyeing your possessions, but don't make any hasty accusations. Think along more constructive lines.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Give advice, but don't become personally involved in a friend's financial problems. Don't overstep your budget tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Before you correct what seems to be an error, check to be sure it's not actually correct. This is not a good time to ask favors — rely on yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't rush into any new projects today. Remember the turtle and the hare, and proceed slowly and surely. Get plenty of sleep tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Schedule your day carefully this morning so you'll have plenty of time to handle all of your respon-

sibilities. Don't waste time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A stubborn associate may be opposed to your plans right now, so wait until a more propitious time. Be very precise in handling your work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Keep your poise during some tense situations today. Do not irritate your co-workers. Your key word today is "caution."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't postpone any promises you've made just because you want to have a good time, or you're apt to get into trouble later.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Much patience will be required at home today. Losing your temper will only add fuel to the fire. Don't invite guests in this evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be sure you state your meanings clearly when handling correspondence. Don't take any foolish risks today, and be very careful while driving.

If Your Child Is Born Today He or she should be impressed with an open-minded, non-prejudiced point of view while young, since it would be difficult to change this type of attitude later. Your progeny will be very practical in nature, and will have a fine understanding of psychology.

"The Stars inspire; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

© 1987, McNamee Synd.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

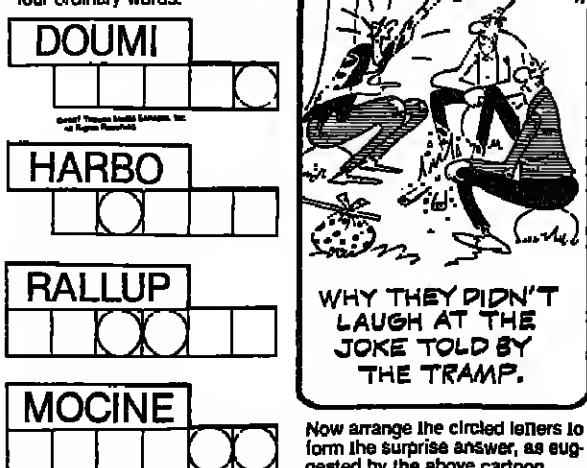


THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: IT WAS A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRAFT DADDY TARTAR AFFIRM

Answer: What the letter C does when you're having trouble losing weight — MAKES FAT A FACT

Kampuchean rivals sign outline of peace plan

FERE-EN-TARDENOIS, France (R) — Kampuchean resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Vietnamese-backed Prime Minister Hun Sen signed a four-point agreement on Friday aimed at accelerating efforts to end Kampuchea's civil war.

The accord calls on the other two parties to the conflict, partners in Prince Sihanouk's tripartite guerrilla alliance, to join political negotiations to end nine years of guerrilla warfare.

It said Communist and non-Communist factions, whether pro-Vietnamese, pro-Chinese, or pro-Western, must get together immediately to build a new democratic, independent Kampuchea.

A text of the agreement was distributed to journalists.

It was the first signal from Phnom Penh's Soviet-backed, Vietnamese-installed government that it is ready to negotiate with the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge ousted by Vietnam in 1978 and blamed for hundreds of thousands of deaths.

In an indication that the meeting in a luxury hotel in eastern France marked a major breakthrough in the Kampuchean stalemate, the two opponents said they would meet here again in January, three months earlier than originally scheduled.

The accord, entitled a joint

statement, was celebrated with champagne in an upstairs room of the 13th century converted castle where the former monarch has been meeting the 36-year-old Phnom Penh premier.

The agreement said that after "a historic meeting" the two sides had agreed that:

— The Kampuchean conflict must be resolved politically.

— The Kampuchean problem must be settled by the Kampuchean people through negotiations between all parties to the conflict to halt bloodshed and rebuild an independent, sovereign and non-aligned country.

— As soon as an agreement emerges between the Kampuchean parties, an international conference will be called to guarantee Kampuchea's independence as well as peace and stability in South East Asia.

— The two parties agree to meet again in January 1988 at Fere-En-Tardenois.

The statement said the two men would hold a third meeting in the North Korean capital of

Pyongyang at an unspecified date.

It added: "On the basis of this accord and in the supreme interest of the Kampuchean nation, the two parties invite the other Kampuchean parties to join them at the negotiating table in order to reach a rapid settlement."

The agreement made no reference to any timetable for the withdrawal of Vietnam's estimated 140,000 troops backing the Hun Sen administration against Prince Sihanouk's rebel forces.

After raising his glass to the prime minister, Prince Sihanouk said: "If we do not reach an agreement in 1988, it will be in 1989 and we will see each other in Phnom Penh."

The 65-year-old prince, looking relaxed and cheerful, said: "We have attained concrete results, the door is open, but there is still quite a way to go before reaching our goal. Together we will get there."

Prince Sihanouk reiterated that any lasting solution depended on Kampuchea becoming a parliamentary democracy rid of every last Vietnamese soldier.

There has been no response, however, from the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful faction in Prince Sihanouk's rebel coalition.

13 die in Rwanda plane crash

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — A private plane carrying 13 people, including 11 American tourists, crashed in a mountainous area of north western Rwanda killing all aboard, officials said Friday.

The Cessna 404 propeller-driven aircraft was on a flight from Goma, Zaire, to Nairobi when it crashed Thursday afternoon near the village of Kanama.

"There were 11 Americans aboard, a Kenyan pilot and a Zairois," a spokesman at the U.S. embassy in Nairobi said. They all were killed.

John Ouma-Daniel, an executive with Cooper Skybird Air Charters of Nairobi, which owned the plane, said a group of Americans chartered the aircraft on Nov. 30 for a safari to Zaire. He said the plane was due back Thursday.

"There were 13 people aboard — 12 passengers and the pilot," he said.

The victims names were not being released, pending notification of relatives.

Rwanda's government-owned radio quoted witnesses as saying the plane crashed into a tree and the impact threw it against a hill where the aircraft exploded in flames.

Romanian named to U.N. grievance body

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A Romanian was recommended on Thursday for appointment to a U.N. staff grievance panel, despite objections Romania itself had violated rules by preventing a U.N. official from returning to his post in Geneva.

Representatives of 20 countries said they dissociated themselves from a decision by the General Assembly's Administrative and Budgetary Committee recommending that Ioan Voicu, a Romanian nominated by the East European group, be named to the seven-member U.N. Administrative Tribunal.

Western countries cited the case of Liviu Bota, who was summoned home to Bucharest in November 1985 and prevented from resuming his post as director of the U.N. Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).

Objections were voiced by Denmark, on behalf of the 12-nation European Community; by New Zealand, also on behalf of Australia and Canada; by Norway, also on behalf of Sweden and Iceland and by the United States and Japan.

He was offered a new U.N. contract at the end of 1986 but was still barred from leaving Romania, despite efforts by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Acting without a vote, the assembly committee recommended Mr. Voicu and Mr. Francisco Forteza of Uruguay to three-year terms on the Administrative Tribunal beginning on Jan. 1, 1988.

Haiti names committee to probe violence

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Agencies) — Threats of a general strike and revolution have not swayed the ruling junta from its plans to name a new Electoral Council and make a second try at national elections, a government source said.

The government, in a televised announcement Thursday night, named a six-member committee to investigate the violence that caused the cancellation of Haiti's first free elections in 30 years.

Presidential candidate Sylvio Claude, meanwhile, called for a general strike starting Friday to protest the junta's dissolution of the first Electoral Council. There were no immediate signs the call attracted great support.

The government source said the junta would pick new Electoral Council members if the Roman Catholic Church, the Protestant Federation, human rights groups and other civic organizations did not do so themselves.

"Naming new representatives is not the intention of the government, but according to the constitution, if institutions don't respond it is up to the government to select the council," said the government source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The civilian groups failed to meet a government-set deadline of midnight Thursday (0500 GMT Friday) to name new representatives to the election board.

The first Electoral Council stopped the Nov. 29 national

Muslims hold first conference in China

PEKING (R) — Muslims from the Middle East, Africa and Pakistan gathered in Peking on Friday to lecture Chinese believers for the first time under Communist rule — but said they aimed to avoid breaking China's ideological ban on foreign missionaries.

Religious leaders from Egypt, Ghana, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Turkey met representatives of China's 35 million Muslims on the opening day of an Islamic gathering for preachers and preaching, organized by the Muslim World League.

League Secretary-General Abdullah Omar Naseef said in an opening address to 100 Chinese believers that Muslims could only regain their former supremacy in the world by adhering to the tenets of Islam.

"Islam has set down the basic rules of economics and politics that Muslims should adhere to," the Saudi Arabian said.

Officials of the Saudi Arabia-based league said the four-day conference was its first such meeting in a Communist country and the climax of China's thawing attitude to Islam.

Muslims were harshly persecuted during the country's Cultural Revolution from 1966-76.

Saudi Arabia, which has provided the largest visiting contingent, has no diplomatic relations with China.

But the Muslim group has provided Chinese believers with

books, foreign scholarships, aid for Mecca-bound pilgrims and cash to build mosques since 1979.

Mr. Naseef said there was "some sensitivity" in China over the conference, which Middle Eastern media earlier this week said would focus on missionary work and discuss studies by Islamic scholars.

Officials of China's Islamic Association said on Friday the "missionary" description was inaccurate.

"We receive help from Saudi Arabia and other countries, but we propagate Islam ourselves," said one. "We are not allowed to have foreign missionaries."

Kuwaiti Muslims provided \$175,000 for the building of a mosque opened in the port city of Qionghuangdao last month.

China's Islamic Association, along with other state-sponsored religious bodies, urges its members to support Communist Party policies.

Islam spread from the Middle East into China more than 1,000 years ago. Most present-day adherents belong to ethnic minorities in the north and west of the country.

Saudi organisers said the conference posed problems of communication, with most Chinese delegates able to read but not speak Arabic.

China now encourages links between its official Christian churches and foreign religious groups.

Sri Lankan deputy says Indians attacked civilians

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A curfew clamped on Batticaloa district following a wave of civilian deaths was lifted Friday morning, while an opposition parliament member charged that Indian soldiers had deliberately killed more than 40 civilians in the eastern district.

An Indian diplomat in Colombo and the Foreign Ministry in New Delhi denied any civilians were deliberately killed, saying Indian troops only fired back at Tamil rebels who attacked them.

Sri Lankan parliament member Haseen Ashraf said Friday that Indian troops attacked the neighbouring villages of Otamawadi and Thuyavaddan and shot passengers on a bus on Thursday in revenge for the deaths of nine

Indian soldiers in an ambush by Tamil rebels a day earlier.

He maintained that more than 40 people were killed by Indian soldiers. Ashraf, a member of the opposition Freedom Party, is a Muslim, as were many of those killed in the villages south of the city of Batticaloa.

A spokesman for the Indian High Commission said Thursday that 24 people had been killed but insisted they were caught in an exchange of mortar fire between Indian soldiers and Sri Lankan Tamil rebels.

There was confusion over the death toll — with Sri Lankan military officials and Tamil residents saying at least 32 were killed.

Police stop Sikhs from marching to New Delhi

FATEHGARH SAHIB, India (R) — Police stopped 2,000 rebellious Sikhs from marching to New Delhi to press demands for political concessions in the strife-torn northern state of Punjab.

The Sikh leaders and their supporters assembled outside a temple in the Sikh pilgrimage town of Fatehgarh Sahib, 50 kilometres from the Punjab state capital Chandigarh, but police and magistrates said the march had been banned.

Sikh leaders want a political settlement in Punjab which has been ruled directly by New Delhi since last May when Prime Minister

Rajiv Gandhi sacked a moderate Sikh government on the grounds it had failed to contain growing violence.

They also want freedom for Sikhs detained on national security grounds and rehabilitation for dismissed Sikh soldiers who mutinied after the 1984 Indian army assault on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

Prakash Singh Badal, a former Punjab chief minister who was freed from detention two days ago, told reporters: "What other avenues are open to use if the peaceful march is had?"

Prisoner fails in pool ploy

LOS ANGELES (R) — A prisoner escaped from a Los Angeles courthouse, stripped down to his undershorts and jumped into a nearby hotel swimming pool. When police arrived, the prisoner, Dennis Westerlund, shouted from the pool: "He went that way, officer." "He might have got away with it — if he had escaped in the summertime," Police Lieutenant Joe Valento said on Wednesday. "He was the only one in the pool." Westerlund, accused of robbery, was ordered out of the pool and taken into custody.

2 years work needed on the 'Last Supper'

MILAN, Italy (R) — Restorers of Leonardo Da Vinci's masterpiece "the last supper" said on Thursday that it would take at least two years to complete their work on the 15th century fresco. Pinin Baccillon Brambilla, in charge of the job which started last May, told journalists the restoration would be definitive and remove all additions made to the fresco by previous artists and restorers. Only 15 visitors at a time are allowed to enter the former monastic refectory in Milan's Santa Maria Delle Grazie Church where the masterpiece is housed. Brambilla said parts of the fresco had been irretrievably damaged because of dust, temperature changes and vibrations from traffic.

Eyes secrete pencil-erasing substance

PEKING (R) — Chinese doctors are treating a 10-year-old girl whose eyes secrete a substance that will rub out pencil marks, the New China News Agency reported. The rubber-like substance appears to be a kind of polymer and leaves a grey granulated deposit on the girl's eyelids, it quoted doctors in west China's Xinjiang province as saying. Only two similar cases have been discovered in China. Both were 10-year-old girls, the agency said.

Cashew nut to boost space programme

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian scientists think cashew nuts belong in orbit. Minister of State for Science and Technology K.R. Narayanan told parliament a heat-resistant resin, based on liquid extracted from cashew nut shells, can be used as a heat shield for spacecraft. Narayanan said the resin was developed by the Regional Research Laboratory in the southern state of Kerala. India's largest cashew nut producer.

Works by Le Corbusier get high prices

LONDON (AP) — Art works by the architect and city planner Le Corbusier, who died in 1966, sold for unexpectedly high prices at auction in London. Sotheby's said it sold 31 of 35 offered paintings, drawings, collages and sculpture for a total £1,597,310 (\$2.89 million), most going well above estimates. The seller was a foundation established by the artist's estate after his death in 1965. The top price, paid by a European private buyer, was £390,500 (\$710,700) for "The Guitar and the Model" (La Guitare Et Le Mannequin) of 1927. A Japanese dealer identified only as Mono Art bought a painting for £110,000 (\$199,100) and a wood sculpture for £48,400 (\$87,600). Le Corbusier was born Charles-Edouard Jeanneret in Switzerland in 1887 and became a French citizen in 1930. Heidi Weber, his wife, wrote in the sale catalogue that her husband started painting in 1918 to 1919. From 1928 onward he used the signature "Le Corbusier," the name of one of his grandfathers. Most of the works sold were in a semi-cubist style, depicting people, animals and objects in a manner strongly influenced by the style of the French artist Fernand Leger.

Einstein manuscript sells for \$1.1m

NEW YORK (R) — The earliest surviving version of Einstein's "theory of relativity" was sold at auction at Sotheby's for \$1,155,000, the highest price ever paid for a manuscript in America. The 72-page handwritten manuscript was written in 1912 and lists his famous E=MC squared equation with an extra algebraic constant that was crossed out. A Sotheby's spokeswoman said the manuscript, given by Einstein to friends, was bought by a private dealer for an anonymous client. It had been expected to fetch about \$700,000. The name of the seller was withheld by Sotheby's. Einstein published his most famous theory in 1915. In it, he postulated a constant velocity for light (C) and its consequence, the equivalence of mass (M) and energy (E). In the version sold at Sotheby's, the equation E=MC squared is listed as EL=MC squared with the "L," an extra algebraic constant, crossed out. The early version was written for a series of scientific articles being published by a German professor, but the series was never printed because of World War I. The version survived because Einstein had given it to friends as a gift. Usually he discarded his manuscripts once they were published. The world record price for a manuscript was the \$11.8 million paid in 1983 for the "Gospels of Henry the Lion," which was sold in London.

Queen's nephew gets 2nd driving ban

BRENTFORD, England (AP) — Viscount Linley, a nephew of Queen Elizabeth II, has pleaded guilty to speeding at 110 miles an hour (176 kph) and got his second driving ban in two months. The 26-year-old custom furniture designer, who is the son of Princess Margaret, the queen's sister, was the first royal family member to be disqualified from driving. Linley, who is 10th in line to the throne, lost his licence for six months on Sept. 21 and was fined £100 (then \$165) for driving 98 mph (157 kph) on a highway outside London on June 10. Three days before that court appearance, he was stopped on a highway in Bedfordshire north of London for doing 100 mph (176 kph). The highway speed limit is 70 mph (112 kph). The Brentford magistrates court on Thursday disqualified him for five months for the second offence but made the bans concurrent, meaning Linley can get his licence back on May 4. He was also fined £300 (\$540) and ordered to pay £15 (\$27) in prosecution costs. His attorney, Michael Sullivan, had argued against a second ban, saying the first "has had the intended effect." "Viscount Linley very much regrets the commission of the offence. He wishes to apologise to the court and the police for the inconvenience that has been caused," the attorney said. Sullivan also defended Princess Anne's husband, Mark Phillips when he escaped a ban for driving at more than 100 miles an hour (160 kph).

Court asked whether ex-queen can enter Italy

ROME (AP) — The Italian government has asked for a court opinion on whether the widow of the last king of Italy can return to the country after a 41-year exile imposed by the constitution, officials have said. Ex-Queen Maria Jose, who lives in Switzerland, has written several letters asking to visit the country. Premier Giovanni Goria's office in turn asked the Council of State, an administrative court, for an opinion. Italian news agencies said the court will take up the case on Dec. 10. The opinion is not binding, and the government has not said what it would do should the court say the ex-queen can return for a visit. The constitution says "former kings of the House of Savoy, their wives and their male descendants may not enter or remain in Italian territory." Some constitutional experts say the clause is no longer valid since her husband, Umberto II, died four years ago. Umberto reigned for 26 days before being forced into exile in 1946 after a referendum abolished the monarchy. He died in Geneva, Switzerland, of bone cancer at the age of 78.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1-800-TRIPLES-AIDS-SERVICES, INC.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A Q J 6 5 ♥K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 3 4 5
What do you bid now?
A.—Since partner has made a reverse bid, you are in a forcing auction. In the modern style, the only aggressive bid you have available is two no trump and, in some sequences, a relay of your own suit—say, other bid is game-forcing. Therefore, you need no more than bid three hearts now, setting the suit. If partner simply goes on to game, you are just worth a one-bid or four spades to alert him to the possibility of a slam.

Q2.—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A Q J 9 8 ♥A Q 9 8 5 2 ♦7 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 3 4 5
What action do you take?
A.—If you could be sure that you had a second heart stopper or that one of your suits would run, you might venture three no trump. Here, however, you cannot be certain your side has a game, so take the safe profit by punishing the opponents' Double.

Q3.—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A Q J 10 9 8 ♥A Q 9 8 5 2 ♦K Q 7
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 3 4 5
What do you bid now?
A.—Obviously, the choice lies between an immediate cue-bid or some spade bid. We prefer an immediate jump to two spades. The trouble with a cue-bid now is you might not have enough room later to encourage partner of the quality

of your spades. You can always cue-bid hearts later.

Q4.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A Q J 7 ♥A J 7 ♦A K J 10 6 5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 3 4 5
What action do you take?
A.—There is a strong temptation to bid three no trump. However, even if that is the right final contract, it is by no means sure that you should declare it. We would much prefer a bid of three hearts, advising partner of our intentions and allowing him to convert to three no trump if he has both unbid suits stopped.

Q5.—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A Q 9 8 7 ♥K 10 9 8 5 2 ♦A 6 3 ♣A 6 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 3 4 5
What do you bid now?
A.—The reply depends on your methods. If you play limit raises, your hand is worth four spades and no more. If you play forcing jump raises, you could be in slam territory, and the way to investigate is with a cue-bid of four diamonds.

Q6.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A Q J 9 8 4 ♥9 ♦K 10 3 ♣A Q 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 2 3 4
2 3 4 5
What do you bid now?
A.—You have to decide whether to support partner's suit or to stress the quality of your hand and your spades. We would jump to three spades, which conveys to partner both parts of this latter message.

سكنا من لاجل